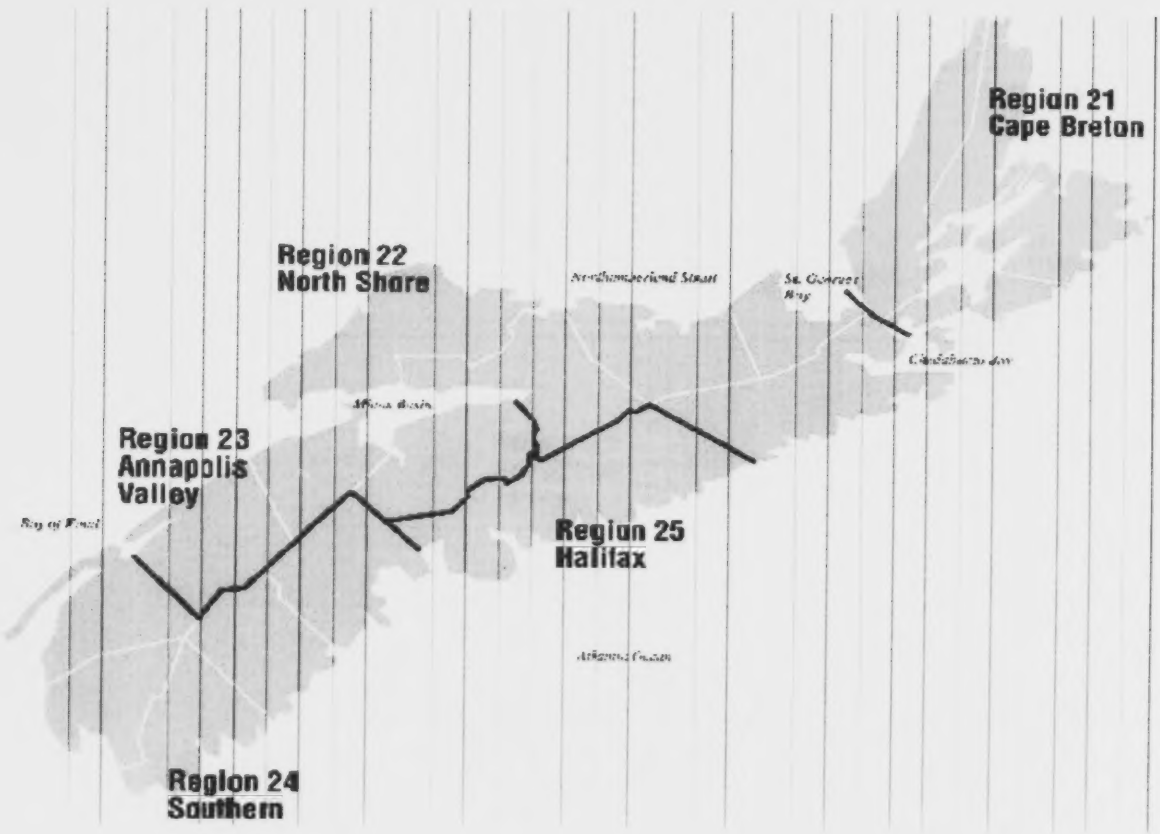
Nova Scotia Labour Market

January - December 2005



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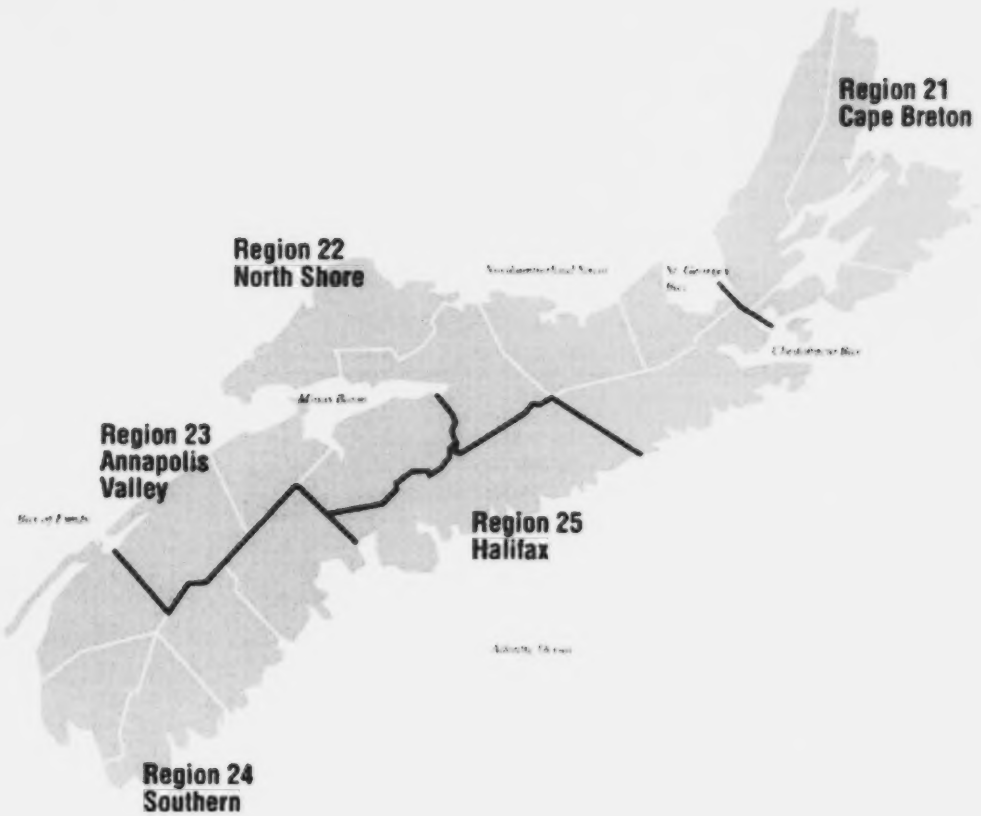
Nova Scotia Labour Market
January 2005



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Key Employment Indicators February 4, 2005

Labour Force Survey - Nova Scotia

(February will be released March 11, 2005)

HIGHLIGHTS - LFS Release January 2005

On a seasonally adjusted basis the provincial employment level in January 2005 increased by 1,200 persons over December 2004 to 444,600 employees. The size of the labour force increased 0.04% and the number of unemployed persons declined 2.3% when compared to the previous month. As a result, the monthly unemployment rate decreased 0.2 percentage points to 8.7%. When compared to January 2004, the employment level rose 2.1% while the unemployment rate decreased 0.5 percentage points. The participation rate was 64.1% in January 2005, unchanged from the previous month and increased 0.6 percentage points from January 2004.

Based on unadjusted three month moving averages, the unemployment rate increased in three of the five regions in the province as compared to January 2004. The unemployment rate increased 0.2 percentage points in the Annapolis Valley, 0.2 percentage points in the Halifax region and 0.1 percentage points in the North Shore region, while it declined 2.4 percentage points in the Cape Breton region and 1.8 percentage points in the Southern region.

On a seasonally adjusted three month moving average basis, the unemployment rate for the Halifax Census Metropolitan Area was 6.1%, an increase of 0.1 percentage points from January 2004. In January 2005 the Halifax rate stood as the lowest rate east of Quebec City.

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 71-001

NOTE: See next page for notice of important changes in LFS 2005. As a result of these changes, LFS estimates have been revised back to January 1976. Users must be aware that beginning with this release, historical comparisons of estimates produced by the LFS must be made with revised historical data.

Feature - Important Changes in LFS 2005

Labour Force Survey (LFS) estimates have undergone extensive revisions. All estimates have been adjusted to reflect 2001 Census population counts (was based on the 1996 Census estimates); industry estimates have been classified from the 1997 to the 2002 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS); occupation estimates have been classified from the 1991 Standard Occupation Classification to the National Occupational Classification - Statistics 2001 (NOC-S). Lastly, geography boundaries have changed from the 1996 Standard Geographical Classification (SGC) to the 2001 SGC, which mainly affects boundaries of census metropolitan areas. The article Improvements in 2005 to the LFS[1] provides an overview of the effect of these changes on the estimates.

As a result of these changes, LFS estimates have been revised back to January 1976. Users must be aware that beginning with January 2005 data, to be released on February 4, 2005, historical comparisons of estimates produced by the LFS must be made with revised historical data.

Revised historical data are now available on CANSIM in tables 282-0001 to 282-0095. The revised data will also be available on the 2004 Labour Force Historical Review CD-ROM (Cat. No. 71F0004XCB), which will be released in mid-February.

[1] See www.statcan.ca:8096/bsolc/english/bsolc?catno=71F0031X

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Basic Labour Force Characteristics, Nova Scotia, 1976-2004
-Revised series released January 2005-

Year	Population '000	Labour Force '000	Employment '000	Full-time '000	Part-time '000	Unemployment '000	Not in LF '000	Unemployment Rate %	Participation Rate %	Employment Rate %
1976	589.5	328.0	297.9	261.0	36.9	30.1	261.4	9.2	55.6	50.5
1977	598.9	332.7	298.3	259.1	39.1	34.4	266.3	10.3	55.6	49.8
1978	608.5	342.0	306.0	267.2	38.8	36.0	266.5	10.5	56.2	50.3
1979	618.2	352.5	317.3	275.8	41.5	35.2	265.7	10.0	57.0	51.3
1980	626.6	359.2	324.4	279.6	44.8	34.8	267.5	9.7	57.3	51.8
1981	632.7	364.8	328.3	278.5	49.9	36.4	267.9	10.0	57.7	51.9
1982	639.8	368.2	321.1	270.3	50.8	47.1	271.6	12.8	57.5	50.2
1983	650.1	375.3	324.8	271.9	52.9	50.4	274.9	13.4	57.7	50.0
1984	659.8	390.8	339.9	284.4	55.5	50.9	269.0	13.0	59.2	51.5
1985	668.3	396.1	342.7	286.1	56.6	53.5	272.1	13.5	59.3	51.3
1986	675.0	403.9	350.2	290.4	59.8	53.7	271.1	13.3	59.8	51.9
1987	680.2	408.4	359.4	298.0	61.4	49.0	271.8	12.0	60.0	52.8
1988	685.1	416.1	373.9	312.2	61.7	42.2	269.0	10.1	60.7	54.6
1989	690.9	423.1	381.3	316.3	65.0	41.7	267.8	9.9	61.2	55.2
1990	697.0	431.4	385.2	319.1	66.0	46.2	265.6	10.7	61.9	55.3
1991	703.5	433.1	380.7	311.6	69.1	52.4	270.4	12.1	61.6	54.1
1992	708.0	424.3	368.4	299.2	69.2	55.9	283.7	13.2	59.9	52.0
1993	712.5	427.0	365.0	296.1	69.0	62.0	285.5	14.5	59.9	51.2
1994	716.5	429.7	371.0	297.0	74.0	58.7	286.8	13.7	60.0	51.8
1995	720.2	427.0	374.5	299.2	75.3	52.4	293.2	12.3	59.3	52.0
1996	724.7	429.3	375.7	299.6	76.1	53.6	295.3	12.5	59.2	51.8
1997	728.4	434.3	381.0	301.5	79.5	53.3	294.1	12.3	59.6	52.3
1998	730.8	440.8	393.8	316.4	77.4	47.0	290.0	10.7	60.3	53.9
1999	735.0	446.3	403.2	326.1	77.1	43.1	288.7	9.7	60.7	54.9
2000	739.2	452.4	411.1	334.9	76.2	41.3	286.8	9.1	61.2	55.6
2001	742.6	460.4	415.4	341.3	74.1	45.0	282.3	9.8	62.0	55.9
2002	747.5	467.2	422.4	342.6	79.7	44.8	280.4	9.6	62.5	56.5
2003	752.7	474.7	431.3	348.8	82.5	43.4	278.0	9.1	63.1	57.3
2004	756.9	484.3	441.6	358.6	83.0	42.7	272.6	8.8	64.0	58.3

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Basic Labour Force Characteristics, Nova Scotia, by month 2003-2004
-Revised series released January 2005-

	Population '000	Labour Force '000	Employment '000	Full-time '000	Part-time '000	Unemployment '000	Not in LF '000	Unemployment Rate %	Participation Rate %	Employment Rate %
Jan2003	750.5	459.5	412.4	324.5	87.9	47.1	290.9	10.3	61.2	55.0
Feb2003	750.8	456.9	412.6	322.2	90.4	44.3	294.0	9.7	60.9	55.0
Mar2003	751.0	463.6	415.3	330.8	84.5	48.3	287.4	10.4	61.7	55.3
Apr2003	751.5	467.0	422.8	339.0	83.9	44.1	284.6	9.4	62.1	56.3
May2003	751.8	478.5	435.1	360.3	74.8	43.4	273.4	9.1	63.6	57.9
Jun2003	752.4	483.7	445.9	368.3	77.6	37.9	268.7	7.8	64.3	59.3
Jul2003	752.9	490.0	445.5	374.5	71.0	44.5	262.9	9.1	65.1	59.2
Aug2003	753.3	493.3	444.7	374.3	70.4	48.5	260.1	9.8	65.5	59.0
Sep2003	753.7	476.6	436.1	351.6	84.5	40.5	277.2	8.5	63.2	57.9
Oct2003	754.2	474.1	435.8	351.8	83.9	38.4	280.1	8.1	62.9	57.8
Nov2003	754.7	477.8	432.9	343.5	89.5	44.9	276.8	9.4	63.3	57.4
Dec2003	755.0	474.9	436.5	344.9	91.6	38.5	280.0	8.1	62.9	57.8
Jan2004	755.3	466.9	418.2	329.6	88.6	48.7	288.4	10.4	61.8	55.4
Feb2004	755.5	464.8	419.7	331.2	88.5	45.1	290.7	9.7	61.5	55.6
Mar2004	755.7	471.9	423.3	339.9	83.4	48.7	283.8	10.3	62.4	56.0
Apr2004	755.9	475.8	428.9	346.6	82.3	46.9	280.2	9.9	62.9	56.7
May2004	756.2	492.5	447.2	365.9	81.2	45.3	263.8	9.2	65.1	59.1
Jun2004	756.5	498.2	459.2	378.7	80.5	39.0	258.3	7.8	65.9	60.7
Jul2004	757.2	504.6	462.9	387.2	75.7	41.7	252.5	8.3	66.6	61.1
Aug2004	757.7	499.3	457.1	386.0	69.0	42.3	258.3	8.5	65.9	60.3
Sep2004	757.8	486.9	449.3	366.2	83.0	37.6	270.9	7.7	64.3	59.3
Oct2004	758.2	483.6	447.2	361.6	85.6	36.4	274.6	7.5	63.8	59.0
Nov2004	758.4	485.2	444.0	356.0	88.0	41.3	273.2	8.5	64.0	58.5
Dec2004	758.8	482.5	442.6	352.0	90.6	39.8	276.3	8.2	63.6	58.3

Source: Labour Division, Statistics Canada

NOVA SCOTIA
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Key Employment Indicators

February 4, 2005

Along with the monthly Labour Force Survey, several other data sources help view changes occurring in the labour market of the province. The following tables reflect some of those activities:

Total Wages & Salaries *(Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 13F0016XPB)*
(October-December 2004 will be released February 28, 2005)

From 2002 to 2003, the annual growth in total wages and salaries stood at 4.0% in Nova Scotia reaching $13,037.3 million and rose 3.2% in Canada to $538,288.4 million. In the period January to September 2004, total wages and salaries were $10,003.1 million in Nova Scotia, up 2.7% over the first three quarters of 2003, while the comparable figure for Canada was $417,727.2 million, an increase of 3.4%.

Total Wages & Salaries, Nova Scotia
($millions - Actual)

	2000	2001	2002	2003	Jan-Sept 2002	Jan-Sept 2003	Jan-Sept 2004
Total Wages & Salaries	11,508.3	11,947.3	12,539.6	13,037.3	9,320.2	9,735.8	10,003.1

Beginning with March 2001 data, the labour income estimates has been based on the North American Industry Classification (NAICS). NAICS based historical series were released for the period January 1997 through March 2001. Also beginning with the March 2001 data, the monthly estimates of labour income has become a quarterly release in conjunction with the National Income and Expenditure Accounts estimates.

Average Weekly Earnings *(Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 72-002-XPB)*
(December 2004 will be released February 25, 2004)

In 2003 the average earnings for all employees in Nova Scotia of $597.89 per week increased $7.21, up 1.2% from 2002, while the Canadian figure of $689.66 rose $8.76 or 1.3%. In November 2004, Nova Scotia's average weekly earnings (industrial aggregate) increased 3.3% over November 2003 to $618.56 compared to an increase of 1.9% to $705.08 in Canada. In November 2004 average weekly earnings in Nova Scotia were 87.7% of the Canadian average.

Average Weekly Earnings, Nova Scotia
NAICS-based(including overtime)

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	Nov. 2004p
Average Weekly Earnings ($)	532.33	526.47	533.00	538.61	549.26	549.24	562.77	574.14	590.68	597.89	618.56

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Employment Insurance

(December 2004 will be released February 22, 2005)

There were 29,670 beneficiaries (seasonally adjusted) in Nova Scotia that received regular Employment Insurance benefits in November 2004, an decrease of 1.1% from last month and a decline of 1.0% over November 2003. Nationwide there were 514,500 beneficiaries, a decrease of 1.3% over last month and a decline of 9.5% over November 2003. Compared to November 2003, the number of beneficiaries in all provinces and territories declined with the exclusion of the Yukon Territory where it remained unchanged, Newfoundland and Labrador which increased 0.6% and New Brunswick which increased 0.7%. The most significant decline was reported in Manitoba at -20.3%.

Number of Beneficiaries Receiving Regular EI Benefits

(Seasonally Adjusted)

	November 2004p	% Change November 2003 - November 2004
Canada	**514,500**	**-9.5**
Newfoundland & Labrador	37,470	0.6
Prince Edward Island	7,810	-1.9
Nova Scotia	**29,670**	**-1.0**
New Brunswick	34,370	0.7
Quebec	171,910	-7.8
Ontario	127,690	-13.1
Manitoba	11,630	-20.3
Saskatchewan	11,060	-14.5
Alberta	26,990	-18.5
British Columbia	55,680	-13.9
Yukon	920	0.0
Northwest Territories and Nunavut	1,160	-2.5

Statistics Canada's Employment Insurance program completed a revision of the benefit payments and disqualifications and disentitlements data series. Due to adjustments received from HRSDC, a revision to job creation, training and self-employment benefit payments occurred for the months of April to October 2001. Please note, the Employment Insurance data on beneficiaries, claims, weeks paid and average weekly payment were not affected by the revision.

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Public Sector Employment - Nova Scotia *(Source: Statistics Canada, Public Institutions Division, Public Sector FMS Reports (CANSIM retrieval Tables 183-0002 and 183-0004)*
(4th Quarter 2004 will be released February 25, 2005)

	1999*	2000*	2001*	2002*	2003*	3rd Q 2004**	% Change 3rd Q 2003 to 3rd Q 2004
Federal Government (includes military)	23,077	22,592	22,709	23,146	23,480	23,576	-0.6
Military	11,431	10,814	10,391	10,526	10,599	10,584	0.9
Provincial General	11,922	11,615	11,303	11,108	11,288	11,161	-3.7
Universities & Colleges	9,144	8,877	8,268	7,906	7,200	5,191	-17.1
Health & Social Services Institution	27,301	27,501	28,156	29,068	30,309	26,561	-14.1
Local General Government	8,720	9,212	9,483	10,244	11,775	13,359	4.0
School Boards	17,038	16,933	16,470	15,800	16,374	12,540	-6.7
Total Government	**97,203**	**96,731**	**96,390**	**97,271**	**100,425**	**92,387**	**-6.5**
Government Business Enterprises	7,439	6,825	6,396	6,479	7,049	7,805	9.0
Federal GBE	4,652	4,050	3,738	3,809	4,333	5,047	13.3
Provincial GBE	2,302	2,290	2,172	2,183	2,229	2,269	2.2
Local GBE	485	485	486	486	487	489	0.0
Total Public Sector	**104,641**	**103,556**	**102,786**	**103,750**	**107,474**	**100,193**	**-5.4**

* Figures by jurisdiction do not always add to published totals.
** Quarterly data is not comparable to annual data due to normal seasonal changes in some groups, e.g., universities, schools.

Nova Scotia Labour Market
February 2005

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Key Employment Indicators March 11, 2005

Labour Force Survey - Nova Scotia

(March will be released April 8, 2005)

HIGHLIGHTS - LFS Release February 2005

On a seasonally adjusted basis the provincial employment level in February 2005 decreased by 1,800 persons over January 2005 to 442,800 employees. The size of the labour force increased 0.8% and the number of unemployed persons increased 14.0% when compared to the previous month. As a result, the monthly unemployment rate increased 1.1 percentage points to 9.8%. When compared to February 2004, the employment level rose 1.4% while the unemployment rate increased 0.8 percentage points. The participation rate was 64.6% in February 2005, an increase of 0.5 percentage points from the previous month and increased 1.1 percentage points from February 2004.

Based on unadjusted three month moving averages, the unemployment rate increased in three of the five regions in the province as compared to February 2004. The unemployment rate increased +0.6 percentage points in the Annapolis Valley, +0.6 percentage points in the Halifax region and +0.5 percentage points in the North Shore region, while it declined -0.9 percentage points in the Cape Breton region and -0.6 percentage points in the Southern region.

On a seasonally adjusted three month moving average basis, the unemployment rate for the Halifax Census Metropolitan Area was 6.5%, an increase of 0.5 percentage points from February 2004. In February 2005 the Halifax rate stood as the lowest rate east of Quebec City.

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 71-001

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Key Employment Indicators - Feature

March 11, 2005

Comparison of Nova Scotia Labour Force Characteristics
Old Data Series and New Data Series–Long, Medium and Short-Term

(Source:Statistics Canada, 2004 Labour Force Historic Review, Cat. No. 71F0004XCB; Labour Force Information, Cat. No. 71-0001-XIE)

Statistics Canada has revised its Labour Force Survey estimates for Canada and the Provinces covering the time period 1976 to 2004. The new revised series are the result of four major structural changes to the Survey.

1. Estimates have been adjusted to reflect 2001 Census population counts.
2. Industry estimates have been classified from the 1997 to the 2002 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).
3. Occupation estimates have been classified from the 1991 Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) to the National Occupational Classification - Statistics 2001 (NOC-S).
4. Geography boundaries has changed from the 1996 Standard Geographical Classification (SGC) to the 2001 SGC (will affect boundaries of census metropolitan areas only).

The key effect for Nova Scotia is downward adjustment to the labour force estimates used in the Survey as a result of the change of population weights based on the 1996 census counts to the 2001 census counts. These weights are applied against the survey results each month to produce the labour force activity estimates (employment, unemployment, etc.) for the Provinces.

Long-Term Trends, Nova Scotia, 1976 to 2004

There was more of a downward adjustment to the labour force estimates in the end year (2004) than the start year (1976) causing lower long-term growth rates in the new data series. This pattern reflects the stronger impact on the more recent years resulting from the 2001 census adjustments. In terms of the unemployment rate, lower estimates produce a 0.4 percentage point drop in the rate over the 1976 to 2004 period in the new series compared to 0.2 percentage point drop under the old series. There was no major changes to the participation and employment rates.

Long-Term Trends, Nova Scotia, 1976-2004

Labour Force Characteristics	Old Data Series 1976 ('000)	Old Data Series 2004 ('000)	Revised Data Series 1976 ('000)	Revised Data Series 2004 ('000)	Change between Old & Revised Data Series 1976 ('000)	Change between Old & Revised Data Series 2004 ('000)	Change Old Data Series 1976 to 2004 ('000)	Change New Data Series 1976 to 2004 ('000)	Change Old Data Series 1976 to 2004 (%)	Change New Data Series 1976 to 2004 (%)
Population 15+	590.8	765.5	589.5	756.9	-1.3	-8.6	174.7	167.4	29.6	28.4

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Medium-Term Trends, Nova Scotia, 2000 to 2004

There were major downward adjustments in the labour force estimates in the medium-term 2000 to 2004. There was, however, larger adjustments for 2000 over 2004 for the labour force and employment levels. This gives lower base levels causing stronger growth trends under the new revised series.

As in the long-term period, there was a downward adjustment to the unemployment rate but no changes to the participation and employment rates.

Medium-Term Trends, Nova Scotia, 2000-2004

Labour Force Characteristics	Old Data Series 2000 ('000)	Old Data Series 2004 ('000)	Revised Data Series 2000 ('000)	Revised Data Series 2004 ('000)	Change between Old & Revised Data Series 2000 ('000)	Change between Old & Revised Data Series 2004 ('000)	Change Old Data Series 2000 to 2004 ('000)	Change New Data Series 2000 to 2004 ('000)	Change Old Data Series 2000 to 2004 (%)	Change New Data Series 2000 to 2004 (%)
Population 15+	747.7	765.5	739.2	756.9	-8.5	-8.6	17.8	17.7	2.4	2.4
Labour Force	461.6	489.7	452.4	484.3	-9.2	-5.4	28.1	31.9	6.1	7.1
Employment	419.5	445.7	411.1	441.6	-8.4	-4.1	26.2	30.5	6.2	7.4
Full-Time	341.2	362.6	334.9	358.6	-6.3	-4.0	21.4	23.7	6.3	7.1
Part-Time	78.3	83.2	76.2	83.0	-2.1	-0.2	4.9	6.8	6.3	8.9
Unemployment	42.0	44.0	41.3	42.7	-0.7	-1.3	2.0	1.4	4.8	3.4
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(% Points)	(% Points)			(% Points)	(% Points)
Unemployment Rate	9.1	9.0	9.1	8.8	0.0	-0.2			-0.1	-0.3
Participation Rate	61.7	64.1	61.2	64.0	-0.5	-0.1			2.4	2.8
Employment Rate	56.1	58.3	55.6	58.3	-0.5	0.0			2.2	1.7

Short-Term, Nova Scotia, 2003 to 2004

The labour force, employment and unemployment estimates have been adjusted down by the same amounts for both years. This adjustment results in no changes to the growth trends between the two data sets. Annual employment for Nova Scotia in 2004 under the new revised Labour Force Survey now stands at 441,600, a drop of 4,100 from the estimate in the old Survey.

The lower levels for the labour force and employment has, by definition, lowered the unemployment estimate for Nova Scotia. The end result is a new revised annual unemployment rate of 8.8 per cent for 2004 compared to 9.0 per cent under the old Survey methodology.

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Short-Term, Nova Scotia, 2003 to 2004

Labour Force Characteristics	Old Data Series 2003 ('000)	Old Data Series 2004 ('000)	Revised Data Series 2003 ('000)	Revised Data Series 2004 ('000)	Change between Old & Revised Data Series 2003 ('000)	Change between Old & Revised Data Series 2004 ('000)	Change Old Data Series 2003 to 2004 ('000)	Change New Data Series 2003 to 2004 ('000)	Change Old Data Series 2003 to 2004 (%)	Change New Data Series 2003 to 2004 (%)
Population 15+	760.0	765.5	752.7	756.9	-7.3	-8.6	5.5	4.2	0.7	0.6
Labour Force	480.1	489.7	474.7	484.3	-5.4	-5.4	9.6	9.6	2.0	2.0
Employment	435.4	445.7	431.3	441.6	-4.1	-4.1	10.3	10.3	2.4	2.4
Full-Time	352.5	362.6	348.8	358.6	-3.7	-4.0	10.1	9.8	2.9	2.8
Part-Time	83.0	83.2	82.5	83.0	-0.5	-0.2	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.6
Unemployment	44.7	44.0	43.4	42.7	-1.3	-1.3	-0.7	-0.7	-1.6	-1.6
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(% Points)	(% Points)			(% Points)	(% Points)
Unemployment Rate	9.3	9.0	9.1	8.8	-0.2	-0.2			-0.3	-0.3
Participation Rate	63.2	64.1	63.1	64.0	-0.1	-0.1			0.9	0.9
Employment Rate	57.3	58.3	57.3	58.3	0.0	0.0			1.0	1.0

In summary, key labour market activities (labour force, employment and unemployment estimates) in Nova Scotia, especially over the last several years, have been over estimated by using the population projections based on the 1996 census counts.

It should also be noted that the release of the monthly estimates for 2005 will now be based on new survey changes. When comparing the 2005 estimates to the 2004 estimates, ensure you use the new survey data in order to avoid confusion. Starting January 2005, the releases by Statistics Canada will also contain the revised estimates for 2004 to assist in allowing for a correct statistical comparison.

NOVA SCOTIA
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Economics & Statistics

Key Employment Indicators

March 11, 2005

Along with the monthly Labour Force Survey, several other data sources help view changes occurring in the labour market of the province. The following tables reflect some of those activities:

Total Wages & Salaries *(Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 13F0016XPB)*
(January - March 2005 will be released May 31, 2005)

From 2003 to 2004, the annual growth in total wages and salaries stood at 2.8% in Nova Scotia reaching $13,401.1 million and rose 3.9% in Canada to $559,376.9 million.

Total Wages & Salaries, Nova Scotia
($millions - Actual)

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Total Wages & Salaries	11,508.3	11,947.3	12,539.6	13,037.3	13,401.1

Beginning with March 2001 data, the labour income estimates has been based on the North American Industry Classification (NAICS). NAICS based historical series were released for the period January 1997 through March 2001. Also beginning with the March 2001 data, the monthly estimates of labour income has become a quarterly release in conjunction with the National Income and Expenditure Accounts estimates.

Average Weekly Earnings *(Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 72-002-XPB)*
(January 2005 will be released March 29, 2005)

In 2004 the average earnings for all employees–incl. overtime (industrial aggregate) in Nova Scotia of $615.91 per week increased $18.02, up 3.0% from 2003, while the Canadian figure of $700.91 represented an increase of $11.25 or 1.6%.

Average Weekly Earnings, Nova Scotia
NAICS-based(including overtime)

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2005
Average Weekly Earnings ($)	532.33	526.47	533.00	538.61	549.26	549.24	562.77	574.14	590.68	597.89	615.91

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
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Employment Insurance

(January 2005 will be released March 22, 2005)

There were 29,710 beneficiaries (seasonally adjusted) in Nova Scotia that received regular Employment Insurance benefits in December 2004, an increase of 0.2% from last month and a decline of 0.3% over December 2003. Nationwide there were 515,760 beneficiaries, an increase of 0.2% over last month and a decline of 8.0% over December 2003. Compared to December 2003, the number of beneficiaries in all provinces and territories declined with the exclusion of the Newfoundland &Labrador where it increased 1.0%. The most significant decline was reported in Manitoba at -17.7%.

Number of Beneficiaries Receiving Regular EI Benefits
(Seasonally Adjusted)

	December 2004p	% Change December 2003 - December 2004
Canada	**515,760**	**-8.0**
Newfoundland & Labrador	37,260	1.0
Prince Edward Island	7,920	-1.9
Nova Scotia	**29,710**	**-0.3**
New Brunswick	33,930	-1.6
Quebec	173,470	-6.3
Ontario	129,670	-9.6
Manitoba	11,920	-17.7
Saskatchewan	11,130	-12.6
Alberta	26,190	-17.6
British Columbia	55,380	-13.1
Yukon	890	-2.2
Northwest Territories and Nunavut	1,100	-6.0

Statistics Canada's Employment Insurance program completed a revision of the benefit payments and disqualifications and disentitlements data series. Due to adjustments received from HRSDC, a revision to job creation, training and self-employment benefit payments occurred for the months of April to October 2001. Please note, the Employment Insurance data on beneficiaries, claims, weeks paid and average weekly payment were not affected by the revision.

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Public Sector Employment - Nova Scotia

(Source: Statistics Canada, Public Institutions Division, Public Sector FMS Reports (CANSIM retrieval Tables 183-0002 and 183-0004)

(1st Quarter 2005 and 4-year revision will be released May 25, 2005)

	1999*	2000*	2001*	2002*	2003*	2004p**	% Change 2003-2004p
Federal Government (includes military)	23,077	22,592	22,709	23,146	23,480	23,397	-0.3
Military	11,431	10,814	10,391	10,526	10,599	10,697	0.9
Provincial General	11,922	11,615	11,303	11,108	11,288	11,047	-2.1
Universities & Colleges	9,144	8,877	8,268	7,906	7,200	5,745	-20.2
Health & Social Services Institution	27,301	27,501	28,156	29,068	30,309	27,717	-8.6
Local General Government	8,720	9,212	9,483	10,244	11,775	12,349	4.9
School Boards	17,038	16,933	16,470	15,800	16,374	16,120	-1.6
Total Government	**97,203**	**96,731**	**96,390**	**97,271**	**100,425**	**96,374**	**-4.0**
Government Business Enterprises	7,439	6,825	6,396	6,479	7,049	7,676	8.9
Federal GBE	4,652	4,050	3,738	3,809	4,333	4,912	13.4
Provincial GBE	2,302	2,290	2,172	2,183	2,229	2,277	2.2
Local GBE	485	485	486	486	487	488	0.2
Total Public Sector	**104,641**	**103,556**	**102,786**	**103,750**	**107,474**	**104,051**	**-3.2**

* Figures by jurisdiction do not always add to published totals.

** Quarterly data is not comparable to annual data due to normal seasonal changes in some groups, e.g., universities, schools.

Nova Scotia Labour Market
March 2005

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Key Employment Indicators April 8, 2005

Labour Force Survey - Nova Scotia

(April will be released May 6, 2005)

HIGHLIGHTS - LFS Release March 2005

On a seasonally adjusted basis the provincial employment level in March 2005 increased by 300 persons over February 2005 to 443,100 employees. The size of the labour force decreased 1.3% and the number of unemployed persons declined 13.5% when compared to the previous month. As a result, the monthly unemployment rate decreased 1.2 percentage points to 8.6%. When compared to March 2004, the employment level rose 1.2% while the unemployment rate decreased 0.4 percentage points. The participation rate was 63.8% in March 2005, a decrease of 0.8 percentage points from the previous month and increased 0.1 percentage points from March 2004.

Based on unadjusted three month moving averages, the unemployment rate increased in two of the five regions in the province as compared to March 2004. The unemployment rate increased 0.7 percentage points in the North Shore region and 0.1 percentage points in the Halifax region, while it declined 1.0 percentage points in the Cape Breton region, 0.3 percentage points in the Annapolis Valley and 0.2 percentage points in the Southern region.

On a seasonally adjusted three month moving average basis, the unemployment rate for the Halifax Census Metropolitan Area was 6.3%, an increase of 0.1 percentage points from March 2004. In March 2005 the Halifax rate stood as the lowest rate east of Quebec City.

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue. No. 71-001

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Department of Finance
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Key Employment Indicators - Feature April 8, 2005

Average Days Lost by Full-time Employees for Personal Reasons
Canada & Nova Scotia, 2000 to 2004

(Source: Statistics Canada, 2004 Labour Force Historic Review, Cat. No. 71F0004XCB; Labour Force Information, Cat. No. 71-0001-XIE)

Data on total days lost is collected in Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey (LFS). The estimated number of days lost per worker per year is calculated by pro-rating the time lost during reference week for personal reasons over the whole year. These estimates apply only to full-time employees who are single job holders. Personal reasons include family responsibilities, maternity leave and own illness or disability.

Total Days Lost, including & excluding Maternity Leave, Canada & the Provinces, 2000 to 2004

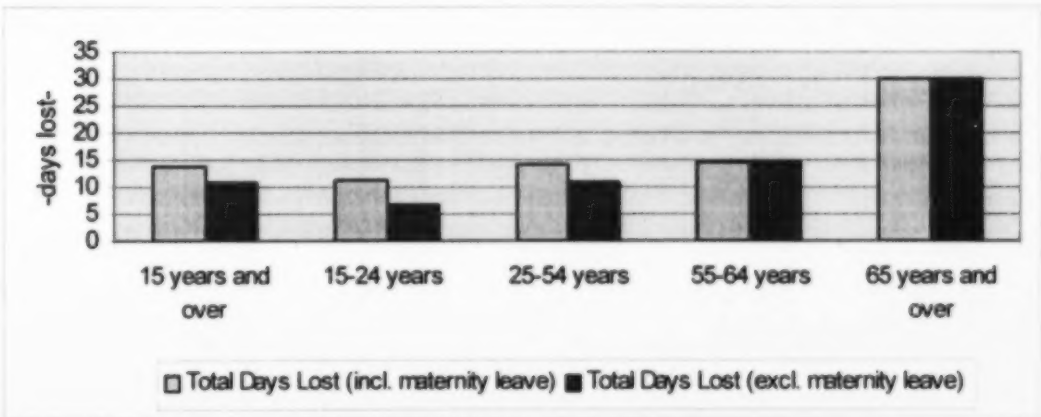
	Total Days Lost (incl. Maternity Leave)					Total Days Lost (excl. Maternity Leave)				
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Canada	**9.9**	**10.6**	**11.8**	**12.2**	**12.4**	**8.0**	**8.4**	**9.0**	**9.1**	**9.1**
Newfoundland and Labrador	10.3	10.0	10.4	13.6	12.9	9.2	8.6	8.5	10.4	10.2
Prince Edward Island	8.6	9.6	11.1	10.7	10.0	6.8	7.6	8.4	7.6	7.5
Nova Scotia	**11.0**	**12.0**	**12.9**	**12.3**	**13.8**	**9.4**	**9.6**	**10.3**	**9.7**	**10.9**
New Brunswick	10.1	12.0	11.8	12.8	13.0	8.6	10.1	9.6	10.0	9.5
Quebec	10.9	11.3	12.5	14.0	14.5	8.8	9.0	9.7	10.6	10.6
Ontario	9.2	9.8	11.2	11.3	11.9	7.0	7.5	8.3	8.1	8.4
Manitoba	10.5	11.2	13.3	12.4	13.3	8.7	9.3	10.0	9.2	9.7
Saskatchewan	11.4	12.0	13.2	13.5	13.1	9.3	9.8	10.2	10.3	10.2
Alberta	8.8	9.6	10.8	10.2	10.0	7.6	8.1	8.4	7.9	7.4
British Columbia	10.4	11.9	12.3	12.9	11.7	8.7	9.6	9.4	9.7	8.7

Including maternity leave, Nova Scotia reported 13.8 days lost in 2004 as compared to 11.0 days lost in 2000, while Canada reported 12.4 days lost in 2004 compared to 9.9 days lost in 2000. In 2004, Quebec was the only province with total days lost higher than Nova Scotia, at 14.5 total days lost. Prince Edward Island and Alberta reported the lowest number of days lost, each at 10.0 days. In 2000 the province's figure was only surpassed by Saskatchewan at 11.4 total days lost while again, Prince Edward Island and Alberta reported the lowest number of days lost at 8.6 and 8.8 respectively.

Excluding maternity leave, Nova Scotia reported 10.9 days lost in 2004 as compared to 9.4 days lost in 2000, while Canada reported 9.1 days lost in 2004 compared to 8.0 days lost in 2000. Excluding maternity leave, the total days lost in Nova Scotia was the highest of all other provinces in three of the five most recent years–2000, 2002 and 2004.

Employees in Nova Scotia–including those on maternity leave–in the 15-24 years of age range, lost an average of 11.1 days in 2004, while the same age group–excluding those on maternity leave–lost 6.5 days. In the 25-54 year age group, total days lost–including those on maternity leave–averaged 14.1 days, while total days lost–excluding those maternity leave–averaged 10.9 days. Maternity leave was irrelevant for employees in the 55 years and over age group, therefore, the number of days lost averaged 14.9 days for this age group.

Average Days Lost for Personal Reasons per Full-time Employee per Year by Age Group, Nova Scotia 2004



Days lost varies among occupational groupings. In 2004, Nova Scotia's reported 13.8 days lost–including maternity leave–was represented by 9.0 days for own illness or disability and 4.8 days for other personal reasons, while the 10.9 days lost reported during the same period–excluding maternity leave–included 9.0 days for own illness or disability and 1.8 days for other personal reasons. Looking at data for both sexes combined, the most significant number of days lost occurred in the health occupations. This sector reported a total of 28.6 days lost–including maternity leave (14.1 days for own illness or disability and 14.5 days for other personal reasons) and a total of 16.9 days lost–excluding maternity leave (14.1 for own illness or disability and 2.8 days for other personal reasons).

Men lost an average of 9.1 days in 2004, 7.3 days for own illness or disability and 1.8 days for other personal reasons. When factoring in maternity leave, women lost twice as many days as men. In 2004 women reported 20.0 days lost (including maternity leave)–an average of 11.3 days lost for own illness or disability and 8.7 days for other personal reasons. Excluding maternity leave, women lost 13.2 days, of which 11.3 days were for own illness or disability and 1.9 days were for other personal reasons. Occupational groupings in which men reported the highest number of days lost were occupations unique to primary industry (12.2 days lost) and in occupations unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities (11.3 days lost) and in social science, education, government service and religion (10.7 days lost). Women reported the highest number of days lost in the following occupational groupings–including maternity leave–trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations (39.6 days lost) and occupations unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities (27.1 days lost). Excluding maternity leave–the occupations reporting the greatest days lost by women were trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations (31.7 days lost) and occupations unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities (21.8 days lost).

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Days Lost by Major Occupational Grouping, by Sex, Nova Scotia, 2004

Occupational Groupings	Total Days Lost (incl. maternity leave) (days)	Total Days Lost (excl. maternity leave) (days)	Own Illness or Disability (days)	Other Personal (incl. maternity leave) (days)	Other Personal (excl. maternity leave) (days)
Both sexes					
Total, all occupations	**13.8**	**10.9**	**9.0**	**4.8**	**1.8**
Management occupations	6.7	5.3	4.2	2.5	1.1
Business, finance & administrative occupations	14.0	10.6	8.8	5.3	1.8
Natural & applied sciences & related occupations	10.3	9.7	8.3	2.0	1.4
Health occupations	**28.6**	**16.9**	**14.1**	**14.5**	**2.8**
Occup. in social science, education, gov't service & religion	19.0	11.2	8.7	10.3	2.5
Occup. in art, culture, recreation & sport	15.9	7.4	5.4	10.5	2.0
Sales & service occupations	13.2	11.2	9.7	3.5	1.5
Trades, transport & equipment operators & related occup.	10.3	10.1	8.1	2.1	1.9
Occup. unique to primary industry	13.4	12.2	10.4	3.0	1.8
Occup. unique to processing, manufacturing & utilities	15.8	14.3	12.0	3.8	2.3
Men					
Total, all occupations	**9.1**	**9.1**	**7.3**	**1.8**	**1.8**
Management occupations	6.5	6.5	5.2	1.3	1.3
Business, finance & administrative occupations	9.2	9.2	6.9	2.3	2.3
Natural & applied sciences & related occupations	9.0	9.0	7.8	1.2	1.2
Health occupations	9.7	9.7	6.5	3.1	3.1
Occup. in social science, education, gov't service & religion	10.7	10.7	6.4	4.3	4.3
Occup. in art, culture, recreation & sport	3.2	3.2	1.5	1.7	1.7
Sales & service occupations	7.7	7.7	6.3	1.4	1.4
Trades, transport & equipment operators & related occup.	9.5	9.5	7.5	2.0	2.0
Occup. unique to primary industry	**12.2**	**12.2**	11.0	1.2	1.2
Occup. unique to processing, manufacturing & utilities	11.3	11.3	10.0	1.4	1.4
Women					
Total, all occupations	**20.0**	**13.2**	**11.3**	**8.7**	**1.9**
Management occupations	6.9	3.5	2.7	4.3	0.9
Business, finance & administrative occupations	16.2	11.2	9.6	6.6	1.6
Natural & applied sciences & related occupations	16.0	12.8	10.4	5.6	2.3
Health occupations	31.5	18.1	15.3	16.2	2.8
Occup. in social science, education, gov't service & religion	23.5	11.4	9.9	13.6	1.5
Occup. in art, culture, recreation & sport	26.8	10.9	8.7	18.1	2.2
Sales & service occupations	18.3	14.5	12.9	5.4	1.6
Trades, transport & equipment operators & related occup.	**39.6**	**31.7**	31.7	8.0	0.0
Occup. unique to primary industry	19.2	12.1	7.4	11.9	4.7
Occup. unique to processing, manufacturing & utilities	27.1	21.8	17.1	10.0	4.7

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics

Key Employment Indicators

April 8, 2005

Along with the monthly Labour Force Survey, several other data sources help view changes occurring in the labour market of the province. The following tables reflect some of those activities:

Total Wages & Salaries *(Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 13F0016XPB)*
(January - March 2005 will be released May 31, 2005)

From 2003 to 2004, the annual growth in total wages and salaries stood at 2.8% in Nova Scotia reaching $13,401.1 million and rose 3.9% in Canada to $559,376.9 million.

Total Wages & Salaries, Nova Scotia
($millions - Actual)

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Total Wages & Salaries	11,508.3	11,947.3	12,539.6	13,037.3	13,401.1

Beginning with March 2001 data, the labour income estimates has been based on the North American Industry Classification (NAICS). NAICS based historical series were released for the period January 1997 through March 2001. Also beginning with the March 2001 data, the monthly estimates of labour income has become a quarterly release in conjunction with the National Income and Expenditure Accounts estimates.

Average Weekly Earnings *(Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 72-002-XPB)*
(February 2005 will be released April 28, 2005)

In 2004 the average earnings for all employees–incl. overtime (industrial aggregate) in Nova Scotia of $611.93[r] per week increased $14.85, up 2.5% from 2003, while the Canadian figure of $705.68[r] represented an increase of $15.33 or 2.2%.

Average Weekly Earnings, Nova Scotia
NAICS-based(including overtime)

	2001	2002	2003	2004	January 2005
Average Weekly Earnings ($)	532.33	526.47	533.00	538.61	549.26

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics

Employment Insurance

(February 2005 will be released April 26, 2005)

There were 29,450 beneficiaries (seasonally adjusted) in Nova Scotia that received regular Employment Insurance benefits in January 2005, a decrease of 0.7% from last month and a decline of 2.6% over January 2004. Nationwide there were 519,820 beneficiaries, an increase of 0.6% over last month and a decline of 6.6% over January 2004. Compared to Jauary 2004, the number of beneficiaries in all provinces and territories declined. The most significant decline was reported in Manitoba at -13.9%.

Number of Beneficiaries Receiving Regular EI Benefits

(Seasonally Adjusted)

	January 2005p	% Change January 2004 - January 2005
Canada	**519,820**	**-6.6**
Newfoundland & Labrador	37,040	-0.3
Prince Edward Island	7,790	-5.3
Nova Scotia	**29,450**	**-2.6**
New Brunswick	33,760	-2.3
Quebec	175,040	-5.8
Ontario	127,320	-6.3
Manitoba	12,290	-13.9
Saskatchewan	11,610	-6.5
Alberta	26,570	-12.8
British Columbia	56,220	-10.8
Yukon	890	-8.2
Northwest Territories and Nunavut	1,060	-10.9

Statistics Canada's Employment Insurance program completed a revision of the benefit payments and disqualifications and disentitlements data series. Due to adjustments received from HRSDC, a revision to job creation, training and self-employment benefit payments occurred for the months of April to October 2001. Please note, the Employment Insurance data on beneficiaries, claims, weeks paid and average weekly payment were not affected by the revision.

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics

Public Sector Employment - Nova Scotia

(Source: Statistics Canada, Public Institutions Division, Public Sector FMS Reports (CANSIM retrieval Tables 183-0002 and 183-0004)

(1st Quarter 2005 and 4-year revision will be released May 25, 2005)

	1999*	2000*	2001*	2002*	2003*	2004p**	% Change 2003-2004p
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Total Public Sector	**104,641**	**103,556**	**102,786**	**103,750**	**107,474**	**104,051**	**-3.2**

* Figures by jurisdiction do not always add to published totals.

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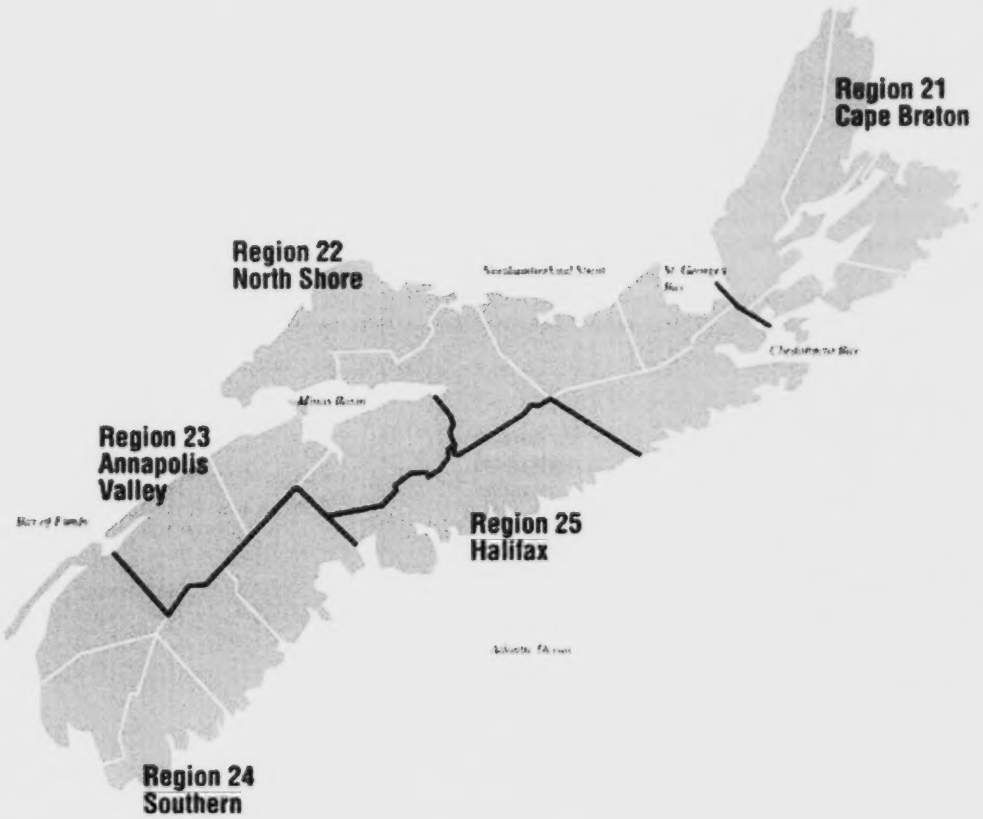
Nova Scotia Labour Market
April 2005



NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics Division

Key Employment Indicators May 6, 2005

Labour Force Survey - Nova Scotia

(May will be released June 10, 2005)

HIGHLIGHTS - LFS Release April 2005

On a seasonally adjusted basis the provincial employment level in April 2005 increased by 1,800 persons over March 2005 to 444,900 employees. The size of the labour force increased 0.2% and the number of unemployed persons declined 1.7% when compared to the previous month. As a result, the monthly unemployment rate decreased 0.2 percentage points to 8.4%. When compared to April 2004, the employment level rose 1.2% while the unemployment rate decreased 0.5 percentage points. The participation rate was 63.9% in April 2005, an increase of 0.1 percentage points from both the previous month and from April 2004.

Based on unadjusted three month moving averages, the unemployment rate increased in three of the five regions in the province as compared to April 2004. The unemployment rate increased 1.0 percentage points in the North Shore region, 0.7 percentage points in the Southern region and 0.3 percentage points in the Cape Breton region, while it declined 2.4 percentage points in the Annapolis Valley and 0.1 percentage points in the Halifax region.

On a seasonally adjusted three month moving average basis, the unemployment rate for the Halifax Census Metropolitan Area was 6.2%, unchanged from April 2004. In April 2005 the Halifax rate stood as the lowest rate east of Quebec City.

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue. No. 71-001

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics

Key Employment Indicators - Feature May 6, 2005

Class of Worker, Nova Scotia, 1976 to 2004

(Source: Statistics Canada, 2004 Labour Force Historic Review, Cat. No. 71F0004XCB

The monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS) reports on two broad categories of workers: 1) *employees*–those who work for others and 2) *self-employed*–those who work for themselves. These two groups can be subdivided into a total of seven classes of workers:

Employees

-private–those who work as an employee for a private firm or business

-public (government)–those who work for a local, provincial or federal government, for a government service or agency, a crown corporation, or a government funded public establishment such as a school/university or a hospital

Self-Employed

-working owners of incorporated businesses with paid help

-working owners of incorporated businesses without paid help

-working owners of unincorporated businesses and other self-employed with paid help

-working owners of unincorporated businesses and other self-employed without paid help

-unpaid family workers–persons who work without pay on a farm or in a business or professional practice owned and operated by another family member living in the same dwelling

Comparable annual data by class of worker has been published from 1976 to 2004. During this time, Nova Scotia's employment has grown from 297,900 to 441,600 persons, representing an increase of 48.2%. Over this period, the number of employees increased by 116,800 to 383,200 persons. In the public sector, the number of emloyees rose 12.0% to reach 104,400 in 2004. Private sector

Composition of Employees, by Class of Worker, Nova Scotia, 1976 to 2004

employees comprise the largest portion of employees in Nova Scotia and their number increased 61.0% to 278,800 persons. The number of self-employed increased by 26,900 to 58,400 persons. Increasing from 17,500 to 31,500 employees between 1976 and 2004, the ratio of self-employed

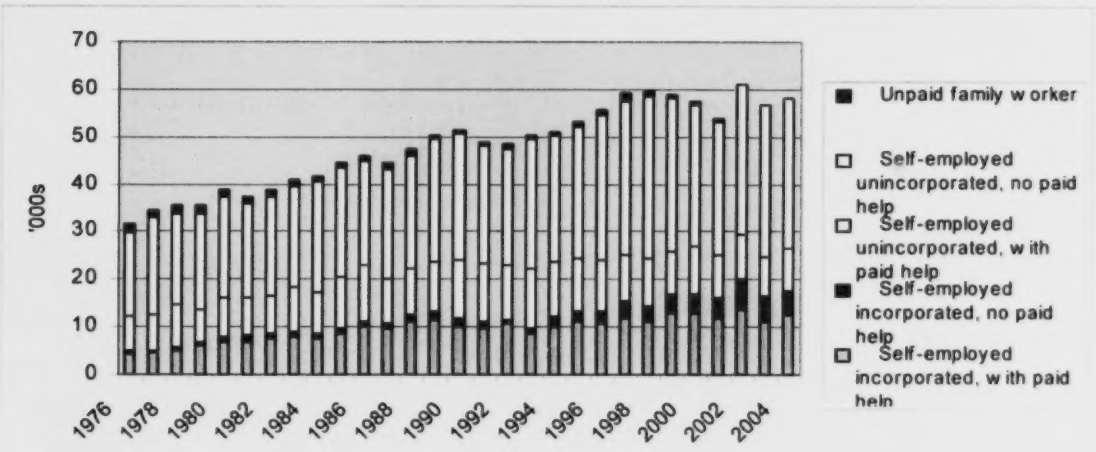
Employees, by Class of Worker, Nova Scotia, 1976 to 2004

Class of worker	1976 ('000)	2004 ('000)	Change 1976-2004 ('000)	Change 1976-2004 (%)
Total employment	297.9	441.6	143.7	48.2
Employees	266.4	383.2	116.8	43.8
Public sector employees	93.2	104.4	11.2	12.0
Private sector employees	173.2	278.8	105.6	61.0
Self-employed	31.5	58.4	26.9	85.4
Self-employed incorporated, with paid help	4.4	12.6	8.2	186.4
Self-employed incorporated, no paid help	0.8	5.0	4.2	525.0
Self-employed unincorporated, with paid help	7.1	9.1	2.0	28.2
Self-employed unincorporated, no paid help	17.5	31.5	14.0	80.0
Unpaid family worker	1.7	n/a	n/a	n/a

n/a--not available

unincorporated employees, with no paid help, remained approximately 55% of all self-employed. While self-employed incorporated employees, with paid help were the third largest component of total self-employed in 1976, this group ranked in second place by 2004, representing 21.6% of all self-employed. Although a small component of self-employed employees, those self-employed incorporated with no paid help, increased five-fold from 800 in 1976 to 5,000 by 2004.

Self-Employed Employees, by Type, Nova Scotia, 1976-2004



Further employment by class of worker data (monthly and annual), private and public sector, is available by sex and industry for Canada and the provinces.

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics

Key Employment Indicators

May 6, 2005

Along with the monthly Labour Force Survey, several other data sources help view changes occurring in the labour market of the province. The following tables reflect some of those activities:

Total Wages & Salaries *(Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 13F0016XPB)*
(January - March 2005 will be released May 31, 2005)

From 2003 to 2004, the annual growth in total wages and salaries stood at 2.8% in Nova Scotia reaching $13,401.1 million and rose 3.9% in Canada to $559,376.9 million.

Total Wages & Salaries, Nova Scotia
($millions - Actual)

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Total Wages & Salaries	11,508.3	11,947.3	12,539.6	13,037.3	13,401.1

Beginning with March 2001 data, the labour income estimates has been based on the North American Industry Classification (NAICS). NAICS based historical series were released for the period January 1997 through March 2001. Also beginning with the March 2001 data, the monthly estimates of labour income has become a quarterly release in conjunction with the National Income and Expenditure Accounts estimates.

Average Weekly Earnings *(Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 72-002-XPB)*
(March 2005 will be released May 26, 2005)

In 2004 the average earnings for all employees–incl. overtime (industrial aggregate) in Nova Scotia of $611.93[r] per week increased $14.85, up 2.5% from 2003, while the Canadian figure of $705.68[r] represented an increase of $15.33 or 2.2%. In February 2005 Nova Scotia's average weekly earnings (industrial aggregate) increased 5.4% over February 2004 to $636.89 compared to an increase of 1.7% to $715.12 in Canada. The February 2005 average weekly earnings in Nova Scotia were 89.1% of the Canadian average.

Average Weekly Earnings, Nova Scotia
NAICS-based(including overtime)

	2001	2002	2003	2004	February 2005
Average Weekly Earnings ($)	574.14	590.68	597.08	611.93	636.89

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Department of Finance
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Employment Insurance

(March 2005 will be released May 24, 2005)

There were 29,500 beneficiaries (seasonally adjusted) in Nova Scotia that received regular Employment Insurance benefits in February 2005. This figure was unchanged from last month and represented a decline of 3.2% over February 2004. Nationwide there were 525,080 beneficiaries, an increase of 0.8% over last month and a decline of 5.3% over February 2004. Compared to February 2004, the number of beneficiaries increased 0.9% in Newfoundland and Labrador and was unchanged in New Brunswick, while it declined in all other provinces and territories. The most significant decline was reported in Alberta at -19.2%.

Number of Beneficiaries Receiving Regular EI Benefits
(Seasonally Adjusted)

	February 2005p	% Change February 2004 - February 2005
Canada	**525,080**	**-5.3**
Newfoundland & Labrador	37,340	0.8
Prince Edward Island	7,890	-3.1
Nova Scotia	**29,500**	**-3.2**
New Brunswick	34,410	0.0
Quebec	176,870	-3.0
Ontario	131,790	-6.0
Manitoba	12,510	-11.3
Saskatchewan	11,810	-7.7
Alberta	25,170	-19.2
British Columbia	54,720	-11.7
Yukon	880	-10.9
Northwest Territories and Nunavut	1,110	-9.8

Statistics Canada's Employment Insurance program completed a revision of the benefit payments and disqualifications and disentitlements data series. Due to adjustments received from HRSDC, a revision to job creation, training and self-employment benefit payments occurred for the months of April to October 2001. Please note, the Employment Insurance data on beneficiaries, claims, weeks paid and average weekly payment were not affected by the revision.

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Public Sector Employment - Nova Scotia

(Source: Statistics Canada, Public Institutions Division, Public Sector FMS Reports (CANSIM retrieval Tables 183-0002 and 183-0004)

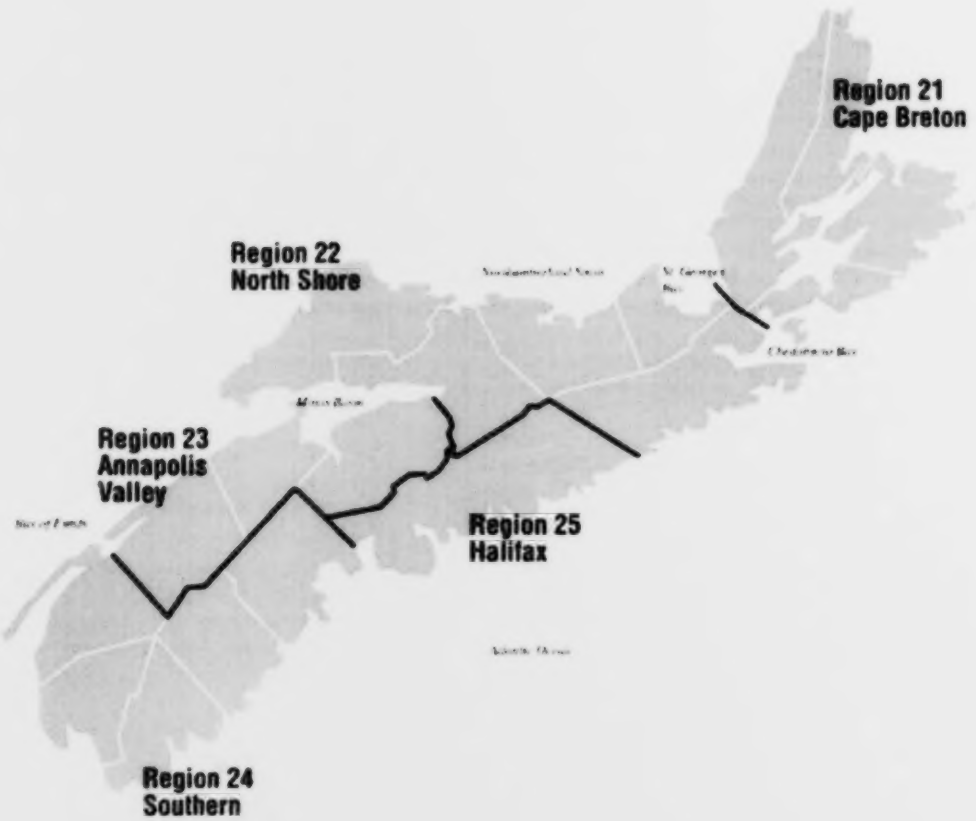
(1st Quarter 2005 and 4-year revision will be released May 25, 2005)

	1999*	2000*	2001*	2002*	2003*	2004p**	% Change 2003-2004p
Federal Government (includes military)	23,077	22,592	22,709	23,146	23,480	23,397	-0.3
Military	11,431	10,814	10,391	10,526	10,599	10,697	0.9
Provincial General	11,922	11,615	11,303	11,108	11,288	11,047	-2.1
Universities & Colleges	9,144	8,877	8,268	7,906	7,200	5,745	-20.2
Health & Social Services Institution	27,301	27,501	28,156	29,068	30,309	27,717	-8.6
Local General Government	8,720	9,212	9,483	10,244	11,775	12,349	4.9
School Boards	17,038	16,933	16,470	15,800	16,374	16,120	-1.6
Total Government	**97,203**	**96,731**	**96,390**	**97,271**	**100,425**	**96,374**	**-4.0**
Government Business Enterprises	7,439	6,825	6,396	6,479	7,049	7,676	8.9
Federal GBE	4,652	4,050	3,738	3,809	4,333	4,912	13.4
Provincial GBE	2,302	2,290	2,172	2,183	2,229	2,277	2.2
Local GBE	485	485	486	486	487	488	0.2
Total Public Sector	**104,641**	**103,556**	**102,786**	**103,750**	**107,474**	**104,051**	**-3.2**

* Figures by jurisdiction do not always add to published totals.

** Quarterly data is not comparable to annual data due to normal seasonal changes in some groups, e.g., universities, schools.

Nova Scotia Labour Market
May 2005



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Key Employment Indicators June 10, 2005

Labour Force Survey - Nova Scotia

(June will be released July 8, 2005)

HIGHLIGHTS - LFS Release May 2005

On a seasonally adjusted basis the provincial employment level in May 2005 increased by 3,200 persons over April 2005 to 448,100 employees. The size of the labour force decreased 0.02 % and the number of unemployed persons declined 8.3% when compared to the previous month. As a result, the monthly unemployment rate decreased 0.7 percentage points to 7.7 %. When compared to May 2004, the employment level increased 1.1 % while the unemployment rate decreased 1.2 percentage points. The participation rate was 63.9 % in May 2005, the same as the previous month and a decrease of 0.4 percentage points from May 2004.

Based on unadjusted three month moving averages, the unemployment rate decreased in four of the five regions in the province as compared to May 2004. The unemployment rate decreased

0.4 percentage points in the North Shore region
0.6 percentage points in the Halifax region
1.6 percentage points in the Cape Breton region
3.1 percentage points in the Annapolis Valley

The unemployment rate increased 0.6 percentage points in the Southern region.

On a seasonally adjusted three month moving average basis, the unemployment rate for the Halifax Census Metropolitan Area was 6.3%, an increase of 0.2 percentage points from May 2004. In May 2005 the Halifax rate stood as the lowest rate east of Quebec City.

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue. No. 71-001

NOTE–SAMPLE SIZE:

The new LFS sample allocation for the decennial redesign project and CV's by province, employment insurance region (EI) and economic region (ER) was phased in between November 2004 and April 2005. The sample reduction impact, began with a 0.5% reduction in each month commencing in November 2004 through April 2005 and resulted in a 3% reduction that will then be maintained for 3 years, ending in 2007-08. Therefore, effective April 2005, the LFS sample for Nova Scotia will be reduced to 2,873.

Key Employment Indicators - Feature

June 10, 2005

Employees by Union Coverage and Industry, Nova Scotia, 2004

(Source: Statistics Canada, 2004 Labour Force Historic Review, Cat. No. 71F0004XCB)

"Unionization rate" is defined as the percentage of employees belonging to a union. It does not include those who are covered by a collective agreement but do not belong to a union. From 1997 to 2004, the period for which comparable data is available, the percentage of Nova Scotia workers that belonged to a union decreased from 29.2% in 1997 to 28.7% in 2004. The percentage of all male employees that were unionized also showed a declining trend from 31.6% to 27.1%. During this time, the percentage of all female employees that were unionized grew from 26.6% to 30.3%.

Unionization was polarized among the 25-54 year age group. However, while male employees in this age group experienced a declining rate from 27.5% to 22.2% from 1997 to 2004, the rate among female employees increased from 23.8% to 25.5%. The unionization rate of both males and females in the 55-64 year age group increased–males from 2.7% to 3.9% and females from 1.7% to 3.3%. While the unionization rate of males in the 15-24 year age group showed decline from 1.3% to 0.8% from 1997 to 2004, females in the same age group increased from 1.1% to 1.4%.

Employees, by Union Coverage, by Age and Sex, Nova Scotia, 1997 to 2004

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Total Employees ('000)	**322.0**	**334.1**	**344.2**	**353.7**	**361.5**	**361.0**	**374.4**	**383.2**
% Union Coverage by Age Group								
Total Employees	**29.2**	**29.8**	**29.5**	**30.2**	**29.7**	**28.1**	**28.5**	**28.7**
15-24 years	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.0	1.3	1.1
25-54 years	25.7	26.2	25.6	26.4	25.3	23.9	23.7	23.9
55-64 years	2.2	2.3	2.6	2.7	3.0	3.1	3.4	3.6
65 years and over	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Male Employees ('000)	**165.0**	**172.2**	**175.4**	**179.8**	**182.6**	**178.9**	**186.3**	**191.8**
% Union Coverage by Age Group								
Total Employees	**31.6**	**31.1**	**30.3**	**29.6**	**29.5**	**27.1**	**27.0**	**27.1**
15-24 years	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.1	1.4	1.2	1.1	0.8
25-54 years	27.5	27.1	26.1	25.3	25.1	22.4	22.0	22.2
55-64 years	2.7	2.7	2.9	3.1	3.0	3.4	3.9	3.9
65 years and over	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Female Employees ('000)	**157.0**	**161.9**	**168.8**	**173.9**	**179.0**	**182.0**	**188.1**	**191.4**
% Union Coverage by Age Group								
Total Employees	**26.6**	**28.5**	**28.6**	**30.8**	**29.8**	**29.1**	**29.9**	**30.3**
15-24 years	1.1	1.4	1.1	1.2	1.3	0.8	1.5	1.4
25-54 years	23.8	25.3	25.1	27.4	25.5	25.3	25.4	25.5
55-64 years	1.7	1.9	2.3	2.2	3.0	2.8	3.0	3.3
65 years and over	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Of the 383,200 Nova Scotia employees in 2004, 19.9% or 76,400 were in the goods-producing sector and 80.1% or 306,800 were in the service-producing sector. The trend in union membership varied

from industry to industry. The goods-producing sector held 4.8% of the province's unionized people and 23.9% were in the service-producing sector. Employees in manufacturing were the most highly unionized industry within the goods-producing sector (2.7% or 10,400 of total employees), while employees in health care and social assistance were the most highly unionized industry within the service-producing sector with 7.5% or 28,600 of total employees with union coverage.

Employees, by Union Coverage, by Industry Group, Nova Scotia, 2004

Employees by Industry	Total Employees ('000)	Union Coverage Total Employees ('000)	(%)	No Union Coverage Total Employees ('000)	(%)
Total employees	**383.2**	**109.9**	**28.7**	**273.3**	**71.3**
Goods-producing sector	**76.4**	**18.4**	**4.8**	**58.0**	**15.1**
Agriculture	3.3	-	-	3.0	90.9
Forestry, fishing, mining, oil and gas	8.1	1.4	0.4	6.8	1.8
Utilities	2.5	1.1	0.3	1.4	0.4
Construction	20.8	5.3	1.4	15.4	4.0
Manufacturing	41.8	10.4	2.7	31.4	8.2
Services-producing sector	**306.8**	**91.5**	**23.9**	**215.3**	**56.2**
Trade	67.6	3.3	0.9	64.3	16.8
Transportation and warehousing	18.3	8.1	2.1	10.3	2.7
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	18.7	1.2	6.4	17.5	4.6
Professional, scientific and technical services	13.6	-	-	13.2	3.4
Business, building and other support services	22.4	0.9	0.2	21.5	5.6
Educational services	35.0	25.7	6.7	9.3	2.4
Health care and social assistance	48.2	28.6	7.5	19.6	5.1
Information, culture and recreation	14.6	3.4	0.9	11.2	2.9
Accommodation and food services	27.9	0.9	0.2	27.0	7.0
Other services	12.8	0.7	0.2	12.0	3.1
Public administration	27.8	18.2	4.7	9.6	2.5

In 2004, Nova Scotia reported 2.8% of the total 13,497,900 employees across Canada. Of the country's 4,286,600 unionized employees, 2.6% were employees in Nova Scotia. Of Canada's 9,211,300 non-unionized employees, 3.0% were employees in Nova Scotia. From 1997 to 2004, the growth of total employees in Canada and Nova Scotia was comparable at 19.2% and 19.0% respectively. The rate of unionization in Canada declined 1.2 percentage points to 31.8% compared to a 0.5 percentage point decrease in Nova Scotia to 28.7%. The three provinces that showed an increase in their unionization rate from 1997 to 2004 were Prince Edward Island, Manitoba and Saskatchewan (increases of 4.5, 1.3 and 0.3 percentage points respectively). The greatest decline was noted in British Columbia where the rate dropped 1.9 percentage points to 33.6%.

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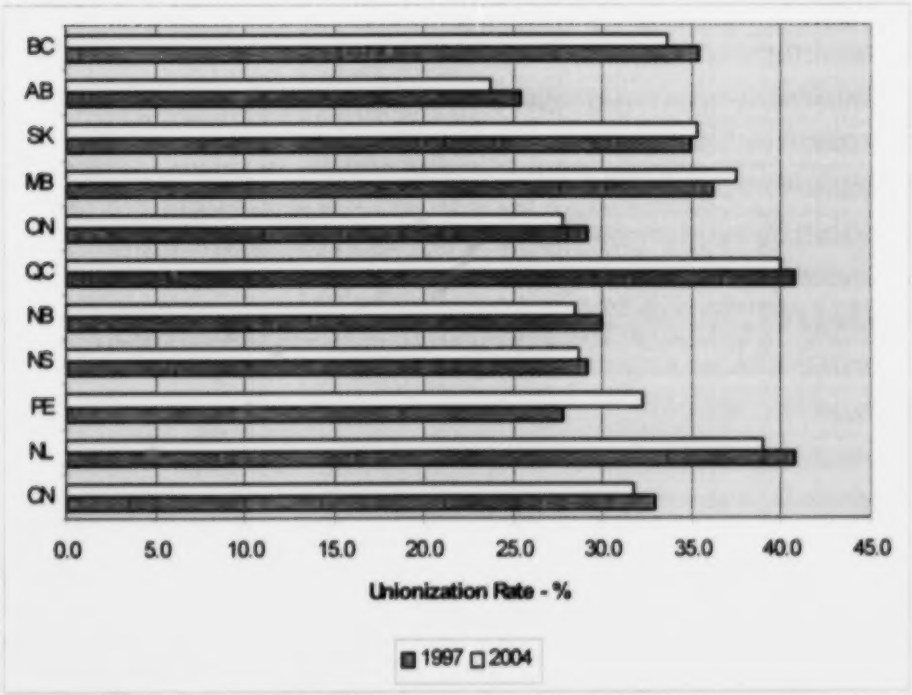
Unionization Rate of Employees, Canada & the Provinces, 1997 and 2004



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Key Employment Indicators

June 10, 2005

Along with the monthly Labour Force Survey, several other data sources help view changes occurring in the labour market of the province. The following tables reflect some of those activities:

Total Wages & Salaries *(Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 13F0016XPB)*
(April-June 2005 will be released August 31, 2005)

From 2003 to 2004, the annual growth in total wages and salaries stood at 2.9% in Nova Scotia reaching $13,368.9 million and rose 4.0% in Canada to $563,149.2 million.

Total Wages & Salaries, Nova Scotia
($millions - Actual)

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	Jan-Mar 2005
Total Wages & Salaries	11,508.3	11,947.3	12,539.6	12,997.2	13,368.9	3,326.6

Beginning with March 2001 data, the labour income estimates has been based on the North American Industry Classification (NAICS). NAICS based historical series were released for the period January 1997 through March 2001. Also beginning with the March 2001 data, the monthly estimates of labour income has become a quarterly release in conjunction with the National Income and Expenditure Accounts estimates.

Average Weekly Earnings *(Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 72-002-XPB)*
(April 2005 will be released June 23, 2005)

In 2004 the average earnings for all employees–incl. overtime (industrial aggregate) in Nova Scotia of $611.93[r] per week increased $14.85, up 2.5% from 2003, while the Canadian figure of $705.68[r] represented an increase of $15.33 or 2.2%. In March 2005 Nova Scotia's average weekly earnings (industrial aggregate) increased 4.3% over March 2004 to $636.24 compared to an increase of 2.0% to $716.78 in Canada. The February 2005 average weekly earnings in Nova Scotia were 88.8% of the Canadian average.

Average Weekly Earnings, Nova Scotia
NAICS-based(including overtime)

	2001	2002	2003	2004	March 2005p
Average Weekly Earnings ($)	574.14	590.68	597.08	611.93	636.24

Employment Insurance

(April 2005 will be released June 28, 2005)

There were 30,210 beneficiaries (seasonally adjusted) in Nova Scotia that received regular Employment Insurance benefits in March 2005. This figure represented an increase of 1.9% over last month and represented an increase of 1.1% over March 2004. Nationwide there were 530,020 beneficiaries, an increase of 0.8% over last month and a decline of 3.5% over March 2004. Compared to March 2004, change in the number of beneficiaries ranged from -19.1% in Alberta to +2.2% in New Brunswick.

Number of Beneficiaries Receiving Regular EI Benefits
(Seasonally Adjusted)

	March 2005p	% Change March 2004 - March 2005
Canada	**530,020**	**-3.5**
Newfoundland & Labrador	37,700	1.7
Prince Edward Island	8,060	-0.1
Nova Scotia	**30,210**	**1.1**
New Brunswick	34,920	2.2
Quebec	179,530	-1.5
Ontario	134,780	-3.4
Manitoba	12,800	-7.6
Saskatchewan	11,620	-4.5
Alberta	24,590	-19.1
British Columbia	52,430	-14.8
Yukon	870	-10.3
Northwest Territories and Nunavut	1,100	1.6

Statistics Canada's Employment Insurance program completed a revision of the benefit payments and disqualifications and disentitlements data series. Due to adjustments received from HRSDC, a revision to job creation, training and self-employment benefit payments occurred for the months of April to October 2001. Please note, the Employment Insurance data on beneficiaries, claims, weeks paid and average weekly payment were not affected by the revision.

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Public Sector Employment - Nova Scotia

(Source: Statistics Canada, Public Institutions Division, Public Sector FMS Reports (CANSIM retrieval Tables 183-0002 and 183-0004)

(2nd Quarter 2005 will be released August 24, 2005)

	2000*	2001*	2002*	2003*	2004*	Jan-Mar 2005**	% Change 1st Q 2004-1st Q 2005
Federal Government (includes military)	22,592	22,709	23,146	23,480	23,396	23,646	1.4
Military	10,814	10,391	10,526	10,599	10,696	10,948	2.7
Provincial General	11,615	11,303	11,108	11,288	11,082	11,125	1.4
Universities & Colleges	8,877	8,280	7,986	7,388	7,636	8,227	-4.3
Health & Social Services Institution	27,501	28,155	29,070	30,324	27,738	27,429	-7.4
Local General Government	9,212	9,490	10,228	11,031	11,068	11,079	1.9
School Boards	16,933	16,468	15,797	16,375	16,127	17,200	-2.6
Total Government	**96,731**	**96,404**	**97,334**	**99,885**	**97,046**	**98,704**	**-2.3**
Government Business Enterprises	6,825	6,396	6,479	7,049	7,676	8,214	9.1
Federal GBE	4,050	3,738	3,809	4,333	4,912	5,418	13.3
Provincial GBE	2,290	2,172	2,183	2,229	2,277	2,311	2.1
Local GBE	485	486	486	487	487	485	0.2
Total Public Sector	**103,556**	**102,800**	**103,812**	**106,934**	**104,722**	**106,918**	**-1.5**

* Figures by jurisdiction do not always add to published totals.

** Quarterly data is not comparable to annual data due to normal seasonal changes in some groups, e.g., universities, schools.

Nova Scotia Labour Market
June 2005

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Key Employment Indicators July 8, 2005

Labour Force Survey - Nova Scotia

(July will be released August 5, 2005)

HIGHLIGHTS - LFS Release June 2005

On a seasonally adjusted basis the provincial employment level in June 2005 decreased by 4,900 persons over May 2005 to 443,200 employees. The size of the labour force decreased 0.1% and the number of unemployed persons increased 11.5% when compared to the previous month. As a result, the monthly unemployment rate increased 0.9 percentage points to 8.6%. When compared to June 2004, the employment level decreased 0.3% while the unemployment rate decreased 0.2 percentage points. The participation rate was 63.8% in June 2005, a decline of 0.1 percentage points from the previous month and a decrease of 0.6 percentage points from June 2004.

Based on unadjusted three month moving averages, the unemployment rate was unchanged in the Southern region as compared to June 2004, it decreased in the other four regions in the province. The unemployment rate decreased 2.5 percentage points in the Annapolis Valley, 1.1 percentage points in the North Shore region, 0.2 percentage points in the Halifax region and 0.6 percentage points in the Cape Breton region.

On a seasonally adjusted three month moving average basis, the unemployment rate for the Halifax Census Metropolitan Area was 6.0%, a decrease of 0.3 percentage points from June 2004. In June 2005 the Halifax rate stood as the lowest rate east of Quebec City.

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue. No. 71-001

Key Employment Indicators - Feature July 8, 2005

KEY LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION - STATISTICS CANADA

The following outlines some of the key surveys and data resources within Statistics Canada that generate labour market information.

Labour Force Survey (LFS)

The Labour Force Survey is a monthly household survey that targets all persons aged 15 years and over excluding: a) persons living on Indian reserves, b) full-time members of the regular Armed Forces and c) persons living in institutions. Labour market information is collected from a sample of approximately 51,000 Canadian households (in Nova Scotia 2,873) categorizing the working-age population as either employed, unemployed or not in the labour force. As well as providing descriptive and explanatory data for each of these categories for Canada, the provinces and territories, Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs) and economic regions, data from the survey provides information on major labour market trends. For employees, wage, union status, job permanency and workplace size are also produced.

Products/Services:

- Labour Force Information, monthly - Catalogue No. 71-001-XIE
- Work Absence Rates, annual, Catalogue No. 71-211-XIE
- The Canadian Labour Market at a Glance, irregular, Catalogue No. 71-222-XIE
- Methodology of the Canadian LFS, occasional - Catalogue No. 71-526-XPB
- Guide to the Labour Force Survey, annual - Catalogue No. 71-543-GIE
- Labour Force Survey Products and Services, Annual - Catalogue No. 71-544-XIE
- Labour Force Historical Review, annual - Catalogue No. 71F0004XCB
- Statistics Canada's Measurement & Valuation of Unpaid Work, occasional, Catalogue No. 71F0023XIE
- Improvements to the LFS, occasional, Catalogue No. 71F0031-XIE
- Micro data file, monthly, Catalogue No. 71M0001XCB
- Unemployment & Labour Force Attachment: A Study of Canadian Experience, 1997-1999, occasional, Catalogue No. 72F0020XIE
- CANSIM, Tables 282-0001 to 282-0095 and 279-0029 to 279-0039
- Free data on the Internet - http://www.statcan.ca in "Canadian Statistics"

Survey of Employment, Payroll and Hours (SEPH)

The monthly Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours is designed to measure the levels and month-to-month trends of payroll employment, paid hours and earnings. The data are compiled at detailed industrial levels (North American Industry Classification System - NAICS) for Canada, provinces and territories. The target population is composed of all employers in Canada, except those in agriculture, fishing and trapping, private households services, religious organizations and military personnel of defence services.

Products/Services:

- Employment, Earnings and Hours, monthly - Catalogue No. 72-002-XIB
- Estimates of Employment, Earnings and Hours, annual - Catalogue No. 72F0023XCB
- Custom Requests–custom tabulations can be arranged on an ad hoc or regular basis
- CANSIM, Tables 281-0023 to 281-0046

Workplace and Employee Survey (WES)

The Workplace and Employee Survey (WES) is a longitudinal survey designed to explore a broad range of issues by linking employers and their employees at the micro data level. A key goal of WES is to shed light on the relationships among competitiveness, innovation, technology use and human resource management of the employer side and technology use, training, job stability and earnings on the employee side. Therefore, the information from both the supply and demand sides of the labour market is available to enrich studies on either side of the market. The target population for the employer component is defined as all business locations operating in Canada that have paid employees in March with the following exceptions: 1) employers in Yukon, Nunavut and Northwest Territories and 2) employers operating in crop production and animal production; fishing, hunting and trapping; private households, religious organizations and public administration. WES draws its employer sample from the Business Register (BR) maintained by Statistics Canada and from lists of employers provided by the surveyed employers. Approximately 100 research projects are either completed or underway with WES.

Products/Services:

- Guide to the Analysis of the Workplace and Employee Survey, annual, Catalogue No. 71-221-GIE
- Workplace and Employee Survey, Electronic Data Dictionary, annual, Catalogue No. 71-221-XWE
- The Evolving Workplace Series, occasional, Catalogue No. 71-584-MIE
- Workplace and Employee Survey Compendium, occasional, Catalogue No. 71-585-XIE
- Custom outputs, survey buy-ins and direct access

Employment Insurance Statistics Program (EI)

Employment Insurance Statistics Program data are produced from an administrative data source and may, from time to time, be affected by changes to the *Employment Insurance Act* or administrative procedures. Data is collected on beneficiaries (measure of all persons who received Employment Insurance benefits for the week containing the 15th day of the month) and by benefit payments (measures the total of all monies received by individuals for the entire month).

Products/Services:

- Report on the Main Results of the Employment Insurance Coverage Survey, 1998, irregular, Catalogue No. 73F0008XIE
- CANSIM, Tables 276-0001 to 276-0009 , 276-0015 and 276-0016

2001 Census

The 2001 Census references the labour market activity of the population 15 years of age and over (excluding institutional residents) in the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day (May 15, 2001). Respondents were classified as either employed, or unemployed, or as not in the labour force.

Products/Services:

- Occupation, 2001 Census Technical Report (reference products: 2001 Census), every 5 years, Catalogue No. 92-388-XIE
- Industry (Based on 1997 NAICS), 2001 Census Technical Report (reference products: 2001

Census), Catalogue No. 92-289-XIE

- Industry (based on 1980 SIC), 2001 Census Technical Report (reference products: 2001 Census), every 5 years, Catalogue No. 92-391-XIE
- Unpaid Work, 2001 Census Technical Report (reference products: 2001 Census); every 5 years, Catalogue No. 92-397-XIE
- Class of Worker, 2001 Census Technical Report (reference products: 2001 Census), every 5 years, Catalogue No. 92-398-XIE
- Canada's Workforce: Paid Work, 2001 Census (Labour force activity, age groups, marital status and sex for population 15+), every 5 years, CD-ROM 95F0377-XIE
- Canada's Workforce: Paid Work, 2001 Census (Labour force activity, presence of children by age groups, age groups, marital status and sex for population 15+ living in private households), every 5 years, CD-ROM 95F0378
- Canada's Workforce: Paid Work, 2001 Census (Labour fore activity, number of children, age groups, marital status and sex for population 15+ living in private households), every 5 years, CD-ROM 95F079XIE
- Canada's Workforce: Paid Work, 2001 Census (Labour force activity, highest level of schooling, age groups and sex for population 15+, every 5 years, CD-ROM 95F0380XIE
- Canada's Workforce: Paid Work, 2001 Census (Labour force activity, school attendance, age groups and sex for population 15+), every 5 years, CD-ROM 95F0381XIE
- Canada's Workforce: Paid Work, 2001 Census (Work activity in 2000, age groups and sex for population 15+, every 5 years, CD-ROM 95F0382XIE
- Canada's Workforce: Paid Work, 2001 Census (Industry-1997 NAICS system, occupation-2001 NOC for statistics, class of worker and sex for labour force 15+), every 5 years, CD-ROM 95F0383XIE
- Canada's Workforce: Paid Work, 2001 Census (Occupation-2001 NOC for statistics, age groups and sex for labour force 15+), every 5 years, CD-ROM 95F0384XIE
- Canada's Workforce: Paid Work, 2001 Census (Class of worker, age groups and sex for labour force 15+), every 5 years, CD-ROM 95F0385XIE
- Canada's Workforce: Unpaid Work, 2001 Census (Unpaid work, age groups and sex for population 15+), every 5 years, CD-ROM 95F0390XIE
- Language Use at Work, 2001 Census (Language used at work, frequency of language of work, mother tongue and sex for population 15+ who worked since 2000), every 5 years, CD-ROM 95F0413XIE
- Language Use at Work, 2001 Census (Language used most often at work, detailed mother tongue, language used regularly at work and sex for population 15+ who worked since 2000), every 5 years, CD-ROM 95F0414XIE
- Earnings of Canadians, 2001 Census (Presence of employment income, age groups and sex for total population 15+), every 5 years, CD-ROM 95F0430XIE
- Canada's Workforce, Unpaid Work, 2001 Census, every 5 years, CD-ROM 97F0013XIE
- Place of Work, 2001 Census, every 5 years, CD-ROM 97F0014XIE
- Commuting to Work, 2001 Census, every 5 years, CD-ROM 97F015XIE
- Education in Canada, Major Field of study, 2001 Census, every 5 years, CD-ROM 97F0018XIE
- Earnings of Canadians, 2001 Census, every 5 years, CD-ROM 97F0019XIE

Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID)

The Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID) is a longitudinal household survey that covers all individuals in Canada, excluding residents of the Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut, residents of institutions and persons living on Indian reserves. The sample for SLID is

composed of two panels (each about 15,000 households and about 30,000 adults across Canada) and interviews the same people from one year to the next for a period of six years. The Survey is an important source for income data for Canadian families, households and individuals collecting data on several themes including: 1) labour, 2) income and wealth, 3) education and 4) personal characteristics.

Products/Services:

- Income Trends in Canada, annual - Catalogue No. 13F0022XIE
- Income in Canada, annual - Catalogue No. 75-202-XWE
- Analysis of Income in Canada, annual - Catalogue No. 75-203-XWE
- Income Trends in Canada (1980-2001) Users Guide; Data Quality in the 2003 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID)–Income Research Paper Series, occasional, Catalogue No. 75F0002MIE
- SLID Survey Overview, annual - Catalogue No. 75F0011XIE
- SLID Electronic Data Dictionary, annual - Catalogue No. 75F0026XIE
- CANSIM, Tables 202-0101 to 202-0107, 202-0201 to 202-0203, 202-0301, 202-0401 to 202-0411, 202-0501, 202-0601 to 202-0605, 202-0701 to 202-0706 and 202-0801 to 202-0807

Several other Products Not Specific to above Surveys

- The Daily - Catalogue No. 11-001-XIE
- Canadian Social Trends, quarterly, Catalogue No. 11-008-XIE
- Canadian Economic Observer, monthly - 11-010-XIB/XPB
- Update on Analytical Studies Research, Catalogue No. 11-015-XIE
- Analytical Studies Branch Research Paper Series, catalogue No. 11F0019MIE
- Pension & Wealth Research Paper Series, occasional, 13F0026MIE
- The Labour Cost Index, occasional, Catalogue No. 71-586-XIE
- Pension Plans in Canada, Key Tables, occasional, Catalogue No. 74-508-XWE
- Perspectives on Labour and Income, monthly/quarterly - Catalogue No. 75-001-XWE
- Retirement Issues, irregular, catalogue No. 75-003-XIE
- Update on Family and Labour Studies, semi-annual, Catalogue No. 89-001XWE
- Labour Markets, Social Institutions & the Future of Canada's Children, occasional, Catalogue No. 89-583-XIE
- Education, employment & Income, Adults with & without Disabilities - Tables, occasional, Catalogue No. 89-587-XWE
- Women in Canada: Work Chapter Updates, annual, Catalogue No. 89F0133-XIE
- Focus on Culture, quarterly, Catalogue No. 87-004-XIE
- Canadian Statistics Tables, http://www.statcan.ca/english/Pgdb/
- Other data related to labour market and income data, see guide: http://www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/75F0010XIE/theme.htm

Source: Statistics Canada, Guide to the Analysis of the Workplace and Employee Survey, Catalogue No. 71-221-GIE; The Canadian Labour Market at a Glance, 2003, Catalogue No. 71-222-XIE; Guide to the Labour Force Survey, Catalogue No. 71-543-GIE; Employment, Earnings and Hours, Catalogue No. 72-002-XIB; and Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics - Survey Overview, Catalogue No. 75F0011XIE

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics

Key Employment Indicators

July 8, 2005

Along with the monthly Labour Force Survey, several other data sources help view changes occurring in the labour market of the province. The following tables reflect some of those activities:

Total Wages & Salaries *(Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 13F0016XPB)*
(April-June 2005 will be released August 31, 2005)

From 2003 to 2004, the annual growth in total wages and salaries stood at 2.9% in Nova Scotia reaching $13,368.9 million and rose 4.0% in Canada to $563,149.2 million.

Total Wages & Salaries, Nova Scotia
($millions - Actual)

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	Jan-Mar 2005
Total Wages & Salaries	11,508.3	11,947.3	12,539.6	12,997.2	13,368.9	3,326.6

Beginning with March 2001 data, the labour income estimates has been based on the North American Industry Classification (NAICS). NAICS based historical series were released for the period January 1997 through March 2001. Also beginning with the March 2001 data, the monthly estimates of labour income has become a quarterly release in conjunction with the National Income and Expenditure Accounts estimates.

Average Weekly Earnings *(Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 72-002-XPB)*
(May 2005 will be released July 28, 2005)

In 2004 the average earnings for all employees–incl. overtime (industrial aggregate) in Nova Scotia of $611.93[r] per week increased $14.85, up 2.5% from 2003, while the Canadian figure of $705.68[r] represented an increase of $15.33 or 2.2%. In April 2005 Nova Scotia's average weekly earnings (industrial aggregate) increased 3.1% over April 2004 to $635.35 compared to an increase of 1.7% to $718.95 in Canada. The April 2005 average weekly earnings in Nova Scotia were 88.4% of the Canadian average.

Average Weekly Earnings, Nova Scotia
NAICS-based(including overtime)

	2001	2002	2003	2004	April 2005p
Average Weekly Earnings ($)	574.14	590.68	597.08	611.93	635.35

[r] - revised data
[p] - preliminary data

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics

Employment Insurance

(May 2005 will be released July 26, 2005)

There were 30,240 beneficiaries (seasonally adjusted) in Nova Scotia that received regular Employment Insurance benefits in April 2005. This figure is unchanged from last month and represented an decrease of 1.7% over April 2004. Nationwide there were 525,030 beneficiaries, an increase of 0.8% over last month and a decline of 4.5% over April 2004. Compared to April 2004, change in the number of beneficiaries ranged from -22.0% in Alberta to +5.7% in Prince Edward Island.

Number of Beneficiaries Receiving Regular EI Benefits

(Seasonally Adjusted)

	April 2005p	% Change April 2004 - April 2005
Canada	**525,030**	**-4.5**
Newfoundland & Labrador	37,870	1.7
Prince Edward Island	8,400	5.7
Nova Scotia	**30,240**	**-1.7**
New Brunswick	34,820	0.7
Quebec	177,760	-3.5
Ontario	133,730	-3.5
Manitoba	13,000	-5.8
Saskatchewan	11,250	-12.2
Alberta	23,070	-22.0
British Columbia	52,360	-12.4
Yukon	900	-7.2
Northwest Territories and Nunavut	710 400	-15.5 0.0

Employment Insurance Statistics Program data are produced from an administrative data source and may, from time to time, be affected by changes to the Employment Insurance Act or administrative procedures. The number of beneficiaries is a measure of all persons who received Employment Insurance benefits for the week containing the fifteenth day of the month. The regular benefit payments series measures the total of all monies received by individuals for the entire month.

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics

Public Sector Employment - Nova Scotia

(Source: Statistics Canada, Public Institutions Division, Public Sector FMS Reports (CANSIM retrieval Tables 183-0002 and 183-0004)

(2nd Quarter 2005 will be released August 24, 2005)

	2000*	2001*	2002*	2003*	2004*	Jan-Mar 2005**	% Change 1st Q 2004-1st Q 2005
Federal Government (includes military)	22,592	22,709	23,146	23,480	23,396	23,646	1.4
Military	10,814	10,391	10,526	10,599	10,696	10,948	2.7
Provincial General	11,615	11,303	11,108	11,288	11,082	11,125	1.4
Universities & Colleges	8,877	8,280	7,986	7,388	7,636	8,227	-4.3
Health & Social Services Institution	27,501	28,155	29,070	30,324	27,738	27,429	-7.4
Local General Government	9,212	9,490	10,228	11,031	11,068	11,079	1.9
School Boards	16,933	16,468	15,797	16,375	16,127	17,200	-2.6
Total Government	**96,731**	**96,404**	**97,334**	**99,885**	**97,046**	**98,704**	**-2.3**
Government Business Enterprises	6,825	6,396	6,479	7,049	7,676	8,214	9.1
Federal GBE	4,050	3,738	3,809	4,333	4,912	5,418	13.3
Provincial GBE	2,290	2,172	2,183	2,229	2,277	2,311	2.1
Local GBE	485	486	486	487	487	485	0.2
Total Public Sector	**103,556**	**102,800**	**103,812**	**106,934**	**104,722**	**106,918**	**-1.5**

* Figures by jurisdiction do not always add to published totals.

** Quarterly data is not comparable to annual data due to normal seasonal changes in some groups, e.g., universities, schools.

Nova Scotia Labour Market
July 2005

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics Division

Key Employment Indicators August 5, 2005

Labour Force Survey - Nova Scotia

(August will be released September 9, 2005)

HIGHLIGHTS - LFS Release July 2005

On a seasonally adjusted basis the provincial employment level in July 2005 decreased by 1,800 persons over June 2005 to 441,400 employees. The size of the labour force decreased 1.2 % and the number of unemployed persons decreased 9.5 % when compared to the previous month. As a result, the monthly unemployment rate decreased 0.7 percentage points to 7.9%. When compared to July 2004, the employment level decreased 4.4 % while the unemployment rate decreased 0.5 percentage points. The participation rate was 63.0% in July 2005, a decline of 0.8 percentage points from the previous month and a decrease of 1.2 percentage points from July 2004.

Based on unadjusted three month moving averages, the unemployment rate decreased in three of the five regions in the province over July 2004. The unemployment rate decreased

1.1 percentage points in the Annapolis Valley region
2.3 percentage points in the Cape Breton region
1.9 percentage points in the North Shore region

while it increased 0.4 percentage points in the Southern region and remained unchanged in the Halifax region

On a seasonally adjusted three month moving average basis, the unemployment rate for the Halifax Census Metropolitan Area was 5.9 % in July 2005, an increase of 0.2 percentage points from July 2004. In July 2005 the Halifax rate stood as the lowest rate east of Sudbury.

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue. No. 71-001

Key Employment Indicators - Feature August 5, 2005

WHY STATISTICS CANADA GENERATES REVISIONS & SEASONAL ADJUSTMENTS TO LABOUR FORCE SURVEY DATA

"Most estimates associated with the labour market are subject to seasonal variation, that is, annually-recurring fluctuations attributable to climate and regular institutional events such as vacations, and holiday seasons. Seasonal adjustment is used to remove seasonal variations from almost 3,000 series, in order to facilitate analysis of short-term change for major indicators such as employment and unemployment by age and sex, employment by industry, and class of worker (employee or self-employed). Many of these indicators are seasonally adjusted at national and provincial levels. Main labour force status estimates are also seasonally adjusted for census metropolitan areas (CMAs), and published as three-month moving averages to reduce irregular movements caused by relatively small sample sizes.

At the start of each year the seasonally adjusted series are updated and revised according to the latest data and information for seasonal models and factors. The seasonally adjusted series are usually revised back three years.

Adjustments are also made to LFS data every five years after new population estimates become available following the most recent census. At that time, all LFS data back to the previous census is re-weighted using the new population estimates (since the new population estimates will cover the inter-censal period between the two most recent censuses), and all corresponding historical LFS estimates are revised. Therefore; at the beginning of 2005, all estimates were adjusted to reflect 2001 Census population counts and LFS estimates have been revised back to January 1976."

Source: Statistics Canada, Statistical Survey Program No. 3701, Labour Force Survey, http://www.statcan.ca/english/sdds/indexa.htm

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics

Key Employment Indicators

August 5, 2005

Along with the monthly Labour Force Survey, several other data sources help view changes occurring in the labour market of the province. The following tables reflect some of those activities:

Total Wages & Salaries *(Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 13F0016XPB)*
(April-June 2005 will be released August 31, 2005)

From 2003 to 2004, the annual growth in total wages and salaries stood at 2.9% in Nova Scotia reaching $13,368.9 million and rose 4.0% in Canada to $563,149.2 million.

Total Wages & Salaries, Nova Scotia
($millions - Actual)

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	Jan-Mar 2005
Total Wages & Salaries	11,508.3	11,947.3	12,539.6	12,997.2	13,368.9	3,326.6

Beginning with March 2001 data, the labour income estimates has been based on the North American Industry Classification (NAICS). NAICS based historical series were released for the period January 1997 through March 2001. Also beginning with the March 2001 data, the monthly estimates of labour income has become a quarterly release in conjunction with the National Income and Expenditure Accounts estimates.

Average Weekly Earnings *(Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 72-002-XPB)*
(June 2005 will be released August 25, 2005)

In 2004 the average earnings for all employees–incl. overtime (industrial aggregate) in Nova Scotia of $611.93[r] per week increased $14.85, up 2.5% from 2003, while the Canadian figure of $705.68[r] represented an increase of $15.33 or 2.2%. In May 2005 Nova Scotia's average weekly earnings (industrial aggregate) increased 2.9% over May 2004 to $628.86 compared to an increase of 2.9 % to $724.84 in Canada. The May 2005 average weekly earnings in Nova Scotia were 86.8 % of the Canadian average.

Average Weekly Earnings, Nova Scotia
NAICS-based(including overtime)

	2001	2002	2003	2004	May 2005p
Average Weekly Earnings ($)	574.14	590.68	597.08	611.93	628.86

[r] - revised data
[p] - preliminary data

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics

Employment Insurance

(June 2005 will be released August 23, 2005)

There were 30,000 beneficiaries (seasonally adjusted) in Nova Scotia that received regular Employment Insurance benefits in May 2005. This figure declined 0.8% from last month and represented an increase of 1.1% over May 2004. Nationwide there were 512,190 beneficiaries, a decrease of 2.1 % over last month and a decline of 6.0% over May 2004. Compared to May 2004, change in the number of beneficiaries ranged from - 22.4 % in Alberta to + 10.0% in Prince Edward Island.

Number of Beneficiaries Receiving Regular EI Benefits
(Seasonally Adjusted)

	May 2005p	% Change May 2004 - May 2005
Canada	**512,190**	**-6.0**
Newfoundland & Labrador	39,000	2.2
Prince Edward Island	8,560	10.0
Nova Scotia	**30,000**	**1.1**
New Brunswick	34,800	3.0
Quebec	173,810	-5.2
Ontario	129,120	-5.8
Manitoba	12,490	-10.2
Saskatchewan	10,970	-10.6
Alberta	21,920	-22.4
British Columbia	50,790	-14.1
Yukon	900	-5.3
Northwest Territories and	730	-13.1
Nunavut	370	-5.1

Employment Insurance Statistics Program data are produced from an administrative data source and may, from time to time, be affected by changes to the Employment Insurance Act or administrative procedures. The number of beneficiaries is a measure of all persons who received Employment Insurance benefits for the week containing the fifteenth day of the month. The regular benefit payments series measures the total of all monies received by individuals for the entire month.

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics

Public Sector Employment - Nova Scotia

(Source: Statistics Canada, Public Institutions Division, Public Sector FMS Reports (CANSIM retrieval Tables 183-0002 and 183-0004)

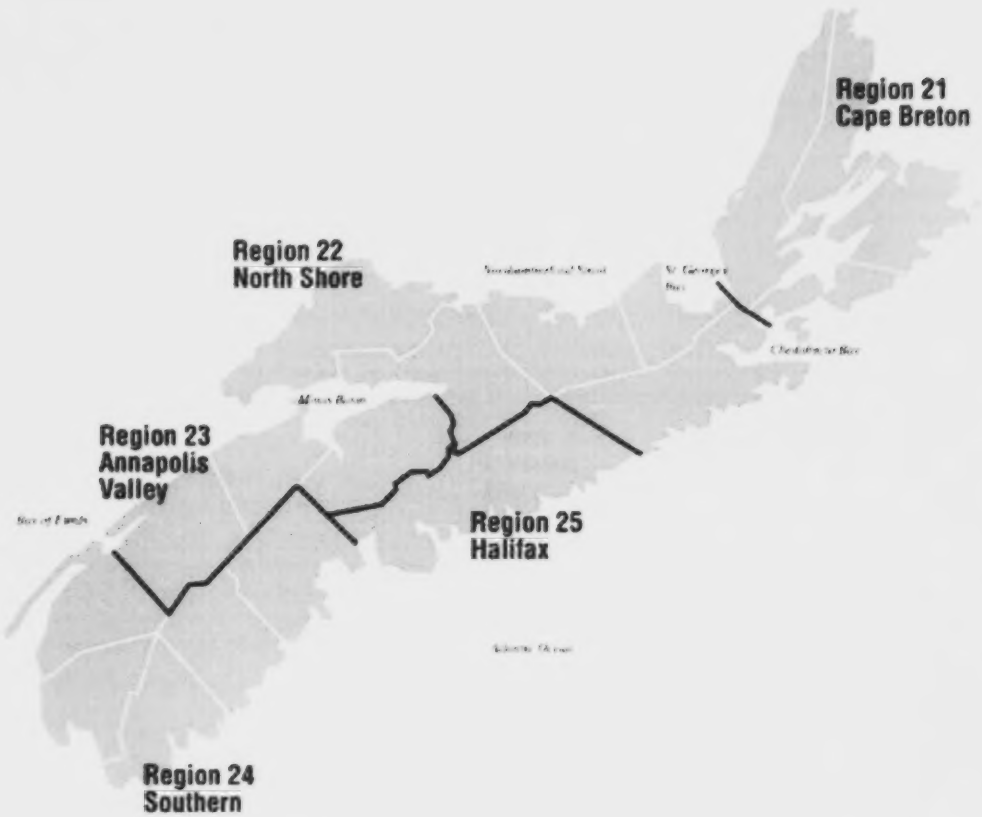
(2nd Quarter 2005 will be released August 24, 2005)

	2000*	2001*	2002*	2003*	2004*	Jan-Mar 2005**	% Change 1st Q 2004-1st Q 2005
Federal Government (includes military)	22,592	22,709	23,146	23,480	23,396	23,646	1.4
Military	10,814	10,391	10,526	10,599	10,696	10,948	2.7
Provincial General	11,615	11,303	11,108	11,288	11,082	11,125	1.4
Universities & Colleges	8,877	8,280	7,986	7,388	7,636	8,227	-4.3
Health & Social Services Institution	27,501	28,155	29,070	30,324	27,738	27,429	-7.4
Local General Government	9,212	9,490	10,228	11,031	11,068	11,079	1.9
School Boards	16,933	16,468	15,797	16,375	16,127	17,200	-2.6
Total Government	**96,731**	**96,404**	**97,334**	**99,885**	**97,046**	**98,704**	**-2.3**
Government Business Enterprises	6,825	6,396	6,479	7,049	7,676	8,214	9.1
Federal GBE	4,050	3,738	3,809	4,333	4,912	5,418	13.3
Provincial GBE	2,290	2,172	2,183	2,229	2,277	2,311	2.1
Local GBE	485	486	486	487	487	485	0.2
Total Public Sector	**103,556**	**102,800**	**103,812**	**106,934**	**104,722**	**106,918**	**-1.5**

* Figures by jurisdiction do not always add to published totals.

** Quarterly data is not comparable to annual data due to normal seasonal changes in some groups, e.g., universities, schools.

Nova Scotia Labour Market
August 2005



NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics Division

Key Employment Indicators September 9, 2005

Labour Force Survey - Nova Scotia

(September will be released October 7, 2005)

HIGHLIGHTS - LFS Release August 2005

On a seasonally adjusted basis the provincial employment level in August 2005 increased by 4,900 persons over July 2005 to 446,300 employees. The size of the labour force increased 0.4% and the number of unemployed persons decreased 7.9% when compared to the previous month. As a result, the monthly unemployment rate decreased 0.7 percentage points to 7.2%. When compared to August 2004, the employment level increased 1.0% while the unemployment rate decreased 1.6 percentage points. The participation rate was 63.2% in August 2005, an increase of 0.2 percentage points from the previous month and a decrease of 0.8 percentage points from August 2004.

Based on unadjusted three month moving averages, the unemployment rate decreased in three of the five regions in the province since August 2004. The unemployment rate decreased 0.3 percentage points in the Annapolis Valley region, 0.6 percentage points in the Halifax region, and 0.8 percentage points in the North Shore region, while it increased 0.9 percentage points in the Cape Breton region and 0.4 percentage points in the Southern region.

On a seasonally adjusted three month moving average basis, the unemployment rate for the Halifax Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) was 6.3 % in August 2005, an increase of 0.2 percentage points from August 2004. In August 2005 the Halifax CMA rate stood as the lowest rate east of Regina.

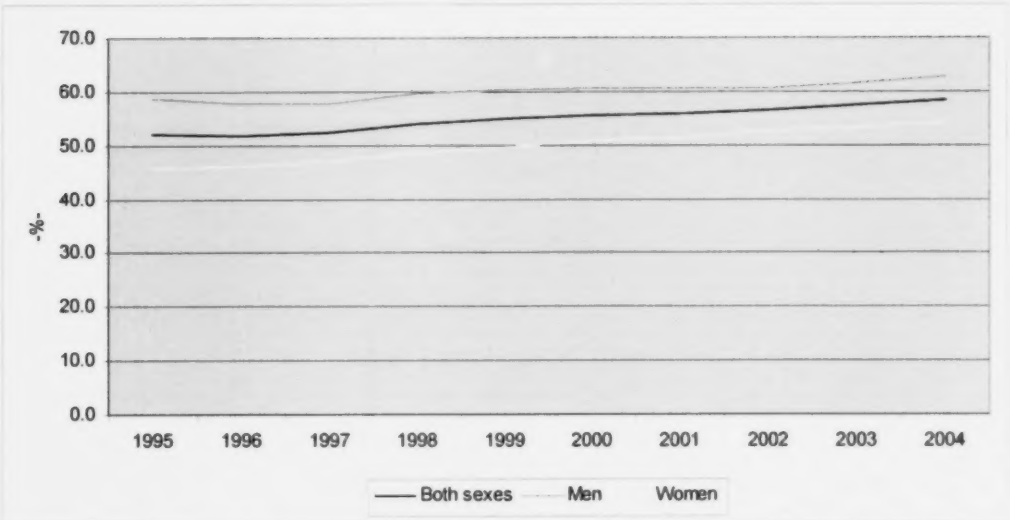
Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue. No. 71-001

EMPLOYMENT RATE

The employment rate (formerly the employment/population ratio) is the number of persons employed expressed as a percentage of the population 15 years of age and over. The employment rate for a particular group (age, sex, marital status, etc.) is the number employed in that group expressed as a percentage of the population for that group. Estimates are percentages, rounded to the nearest tenth.

In 2004, Nova Scotia's employment rate of 58.3% represented a 6.3 percentage point increase over 1995. During this ten-year period, the employment rate of males increased 4.0 percentage points to 62.8%, while the employment rate of females increased 8.5 percentage points to 54.2%. Thus, the gap between men and women was narrowed from 13.1 percentage points in 1995 to 8.6 percentage points in 2005.

Employment Rate, by Sex, Nova Scotia, 1995 to 2004



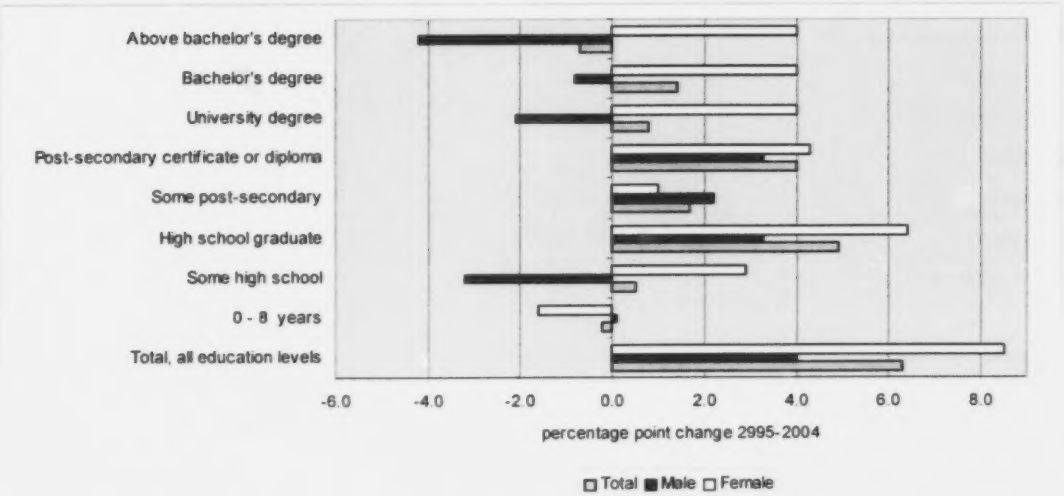
This more pronounced growth in the province's female employment rate was apparent across all ages. The most significant growth in the employment rate of women was, however, in the 45-59 year age group. Many changes have occurred in Canadian society that have facilitated women's increased presence in the workforce. These changes include enhanced parental leave and higher levels of representation in many university degree programs.

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics

Employment Rate, by Age Groups, Percentage Points Change, Nova Scotia,1995 to 2004

From 1995 to 2004, the employment rate has shown a marked improvement with increased levels of education. There was a 6.4 percentage point increase in the employment rate of women that graduated from high school, a 4.3 percentage point increase in those with post-secondary education and a 4.0 percentage point increase in those with a university degree. There was a 3.3 percentage point increase in the employment rate of men who completed high school and, as well, 3.3 percentage point increase in those with post-secondary education.

Employment Rate, by Level of Education, Nova Scotia, 1995 to 2004



Compared to the percentage point increase in the employment rate at the provincial level from 1995 to 2004, the province's Southern and North Shore exhibited a greater increase in the employment rate than the province as a whole, increasing 8.6 percentage points and 7.5 percentage points respectively. The Cape Breton region experienced the lowest percentage point change in its employment rate of all of the province's regions at 2.9 percentage points.

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics

Employment Rate, Percentage Point Change, by Economic Region, Nova Scotia 1995 to 2004

	Percentage Point Change 1995 to 2004
Nova Scotia	6.3
Region:	
Cape Breton	2.9
North Shore	7.5
Annapolis Valley	6.2
Southern	8.6
Halifax	4.9

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2004, CD-ROM No. 71F0004-XCB

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics

Key Employment Indicators

September 9, 2005

Along with the monthly Labour Force Survey, several other data sources help view changes occurring in the labour market of the province. The following tables reflect some of those activities:

Total Wages & Salaries *(Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 13F0016XPB)*
(July-September 2005 will be released November 30, 2005)

From 2003 to 2004, the annual growth in total wages and salaries stood at 2.9% in Nova Scotia reaching $13,368.9 million and rose 4.0% in Canada to $563,149.2 million. Total wages and salaries increased 5.0% in Nova Scotia during January to June 2005 as compared to January to June 2004 reaching $6,898.3 million and during the same period rose 4.5% in Canada to $290,747.4 million.

Total Wages & Salaries, Nova Scotia
($millions - Actual)

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	Jan-June 2005
Total Wages & Salaries	11,508.3	11,947.3	12,539.6	12,997.2	13,368.9	6,898.3

Beginning with March 2001 data, the labour income estimates has been based on the North American Industry Classification (NAICS). NAICS based historical series were released for the period January 1997 through March 2001. Also beginning with the March 2001 data, the monthly estimates of labour income has become a quarterly release in conjunction with the National Income and Expenditure Accounts estimates.

Average Weekly Earnings *(Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 72-002-XPB)*
(July 2005 will be released September 28, 2005)

In 2004 the average earnings for all employees–incl. overtime (industrial aggregate) in Nova Scotia of $611.93[r] per week increased $14.85, up 2.5% from 2003, while the Canadian figure of $705.68[r] represented an increase of $15.33 or 2.2%. In June 2005 Nova Scotia's average weekly earnings (industrial aggregate) increased 4.4% over June 2004 to $642.13 compared to a 3.6% increase in Canada to $735.79. The June 2005 average weekly earnings in Nova Scotia were 87.3% of the Canadian average.

Average Weekly Earnings, Nova Scotia
NAICS-based(including overtime)

	2001	2002	2003	2004	June 2005p
Average Weekly Earnings ($)	574.14	590.68	597.08	611.93	642.13

[r] - revised data
[p] - preliminary data

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics

Employment Insurance

(July 2005 will be released September 27, 2005)

There were 30,840 beneficiaries (seasonally adjusted) in Nova Scotia that received regular Employment Insurance benefits in June 2005. This figure was 2.3% higher than last month and represented an increase of 5.1% over June 2004. Nationwide there were 521,610 beneficiaries, an increase of 1.7% over last month and a decline of 3.7% from June 2004. Compared to June 2004, change in the number of beneficiaries ranged from -26.1% in Alberta to +11.7% in Prince Edward Island.

Number of Beneficiaries Receiving Regular EI Benefits

(Seasonally Adjusted)

	June 2005p	% Change June 2004 - June 2005
Canada	**521,610**	**-3.7**
Newfoundland & Labrador	38,400	1.8
Prince Edward Island	8,770	11.7
Nova Scotia	**30,840**	**5.1**
New Brunswick	35,700	5.8
Quebec	182,050	0.4
Ontario	131,680	-3.6
Manitoba	12,430	-7.9
Saskatchewan	10,780	-13.8
Alberta	21,690	-26.1
British Columbia	49,880	-13.8
Yukon	940	0.0
Northwest Territories and	750	-9.6
Nunavut	380	5.6

Employment Insurance Statistics Program data are produced from an administrative data source and may, from time to time, be affected by changes to the Employment Insurance Act or administrative procedures. The number of beneficiaries is a measure of all persons who received Employment Insurance benefits for the week containing the fifteenth day of the month. The regular benefit payments series measures the total of all monies received by individuals for the entire month.

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics

Public Sector Employment - Nova Scotia

(Source: Statistics Canada, Public Institutions Division, Public Sector FMS Reports (CANSIM retrieval Tables 183-0002 and 183-0004)

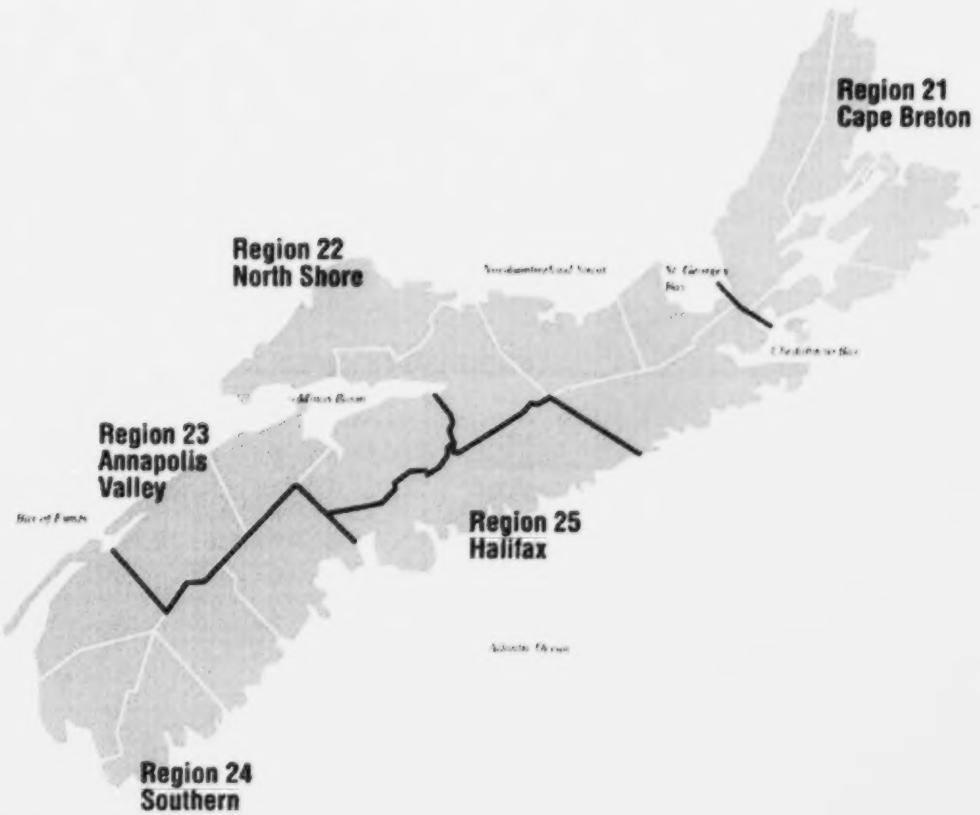
(3rd Quarter 2005 will be released November 29, 2005)

	2000*	2001*	2002*	2003*	2004*	Apr-June 2005**	% Change 2nd Q 2004-2nd Q 2005
Federal Government (includes military)	22,592	22,709	23,146	23,480	23,396	23,875	2.0
Military	10,814	10,391	10,526	10,599	10,696	11,023	2.8
Provincial General	11,615	11,303	11,108	11,288	11,082	11,592	4.7
Universities & Colleges	8,877	8,280	7,986	7,388	7,636	7,936	7.4
Health & Social Services Institution	27,501	28,155	29,070	30,324	27,738	29,217	4.0
Local General Government	9,212	9,490	10,228	11,031	11,068	10,073	-12.6
School Boards	16,933	16,468	15,797	16,375	16,127	16,315	-4.3
Total Government	**96,731**	**96,404**	**97,334**	**99,885**	**97,046**	**99,008**	**0.5**
Government Business Enterprises	6,825	6,396	6,479	6,738	7,011	7,307	4.1
Federal GBE	4,050	3,738	3,809	4,022	4,246	4,503	5.6
Provincial GBE	2,290	2,172	2,183	2,229	2,277	2,315	2.1
Local GBE	485	486	486	487	487	489	0.2
Total Public Sector	**103,556**	**102,800**	**103,812**	**106,623**	**104,056**	**106,316**	**0.7**

* Figures by jurisdiction do not always add to published totals.

** Quarterly data is not comparable to annual data due to normal seasonal changes in some groups, e.g., universities, schools.

Nova Scotia Labour Market
September 2005



NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics Division

Key Employment Indicators October 7, 2005

Labour Force Survey - Nova Scotia

(October will be released November 4, 2005)

HIGHLIGHTS - LFS Release September 2005

On a seasonally adjusted basis the provincial employment level in September 2005 decreased by 5,800 persons over August 2005 to 440,500 employees. The size of the labour force was virtually unchanged and the number of unemployed persons increased 16.1 per cent when compared to the previous month. As a result, the monthly unemployment rate increased 1.2 percentage points to 8.4 per cent. When compared to September 2004, the employment level decreased 0.9 per cent while the unemployment rate decreased 0.2 percentage points. The participation rate was unchanged since last month at 63.2 per cent in September 2005, and decreased 1.0 percentage points from September 2004.

Based on unadjusted three month moving averages, the unemployment rate decreased in three of the five regions in the province since September 2004. The unemployment rate decreased 2.5 percentage points in the Cape Breton region, 2.3 percentage points in the North Shore region and 0.7 percentage points in the Halifax region, while it increased 2.1 percentage points in the Southern region and was unchanged in the Annapolis Valley region.

On a seasonally adjusted three month moving average basis, the unemployment rate for the Halifax Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) was 5.2 per cent in September 2005, a decrease of 0.5 percentage points from September 2004. In September 2005, the Halifax CMA rate stood as the lowest rate east of Winnipeg.

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue. No. 71-001

RATES of EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT and PARTICIPATION, CENSUS DIVISIONS, NOVA SCOTIA, 2002/2003 and 2003/2004

The following two-year average estimates for Nova Scotia at the Census Division level have been published by Statistics Canada covering 2002/2003 and 2003/2004. These estimates are based on 2001 Census geographic boundaries. Note that the CV with this new sample is not ready yet. The intention is to have the CV with the 2005 update.

Rates of Employment, Unemployment & Participation (1), Census Divisions, Nova Scotia -Two-Year Average Estimates, 2002/2003 and 2004/2004

	Employment Rates		Unemployment Rates		Participation Rates	
	2002 & 2003	2003 & 2004	2002 & 2003	2003 & 2004	2002 & 2003	2003 & 2004
County	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
Annapolis	50.1	50.5	8.9	9.4	55.5	55.7
Antigonish & Pictou	53.5	56.3	11.4	9.9	60.4	62.5
Cape Breton	42.3	42.0	15.7	16.4	50.1	50.3
Colchester	57.5	56.0	7.8	8.7	62.4	61.3
Cumberland	50.2	55.0	10.4	10.0	56.0	61.1
Digby	52.1	52.6	12.2	10.1	59.4	58.5
Guysborough, Inverness, Richmond & Victoria	47.4	48.1	15.7	14.8	56.3	56.4
Halifax	64.4	65.4	7.1	6.3	69.3	69.9
Hants	59.7	61.0	8.1	7.7	64.9	66.1
Kings	57.5	57.7	8.1	8.9	62.5	63.3
Lunenburg	57.3	57.8	9.1	9.4	63.0	63.8
Queens	46.0	49.3	10.0	10.2	51.1	54.9
Shelburne	54.1	51.8	14.4	15.9	63.2	61.6
Yarmouth	53.8	55.1	11.2	10.3	60.6	61.4

(1) Data is based on 2001 Census boundaries

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Division, Special Tabulation released August 2005

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics

Key Employment Indicators

October 7, 2005

Along with the monthly Labour Force Survey, several other data sources help view changes occurring in the labour market of the province. The following tables reflect some of those activities:

Total Wages & Salaries *(Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 13F0016XPB)*
(July-September 2005 will be released November 30, 2005)

From 2003 to 2004, the annual growth in total wages and salaries stood at 2.9 per cent in Nova Scotia reaching $13,368.9 million and rose 4.0 per cent in Canada to $563,149.2 million. Total wages and salaries increased 5.0 per cent in Nova Scotia during January to June 2005 as compared to January to June 2004 reaching $6,898.3 million and during the same period rose 4.5 per cent in Canada to $290,747.4 million.

Total Wages & Salaries, Nova Scotia
($millions - Actual)

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	Jan-June 2005
Total Wages & Salaries	11,508.3	11,947.3	12,539.6	12,997.2	13,368.9	6,898.3

Beginning with March 2001 data, the labour income estimates has been based on the North American Industry Classification (NAICS). NAICS based historical series were released for the period January 1997 through March 2001. Also beginning with the March 2001 data, the monthly estimates of labour income has become a quarterly release in conjunction with the National Income and Expenditure Accounts estimates.

Average Weekly Earnings *(Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 72-002-XPB)*
(August 2005 will be released October 27, 2005)

In 2004 the average earnings for all employees–incl. overtime (industrial aggregate) in Nova Scotia of $611.93[r] per week increased $14.85, up 2.5 per cent from 2003, while the Canadian figure of $705.68[r] represented an increase of $15.33 or 2.2 per cent. In July 2005 Nova Scotia's average weekly earnings (industrial aggregate) increased 3.5 per cent over July 2004 to $633.75 compared to a 3.3 per cent increase in Canada to $727.32. The July 2005 average weekly earnings in Nova Scotia were 87.1 per cent of the Canadian average.

Average Weekly Earnings, Nova Scotia
NAICS-based(including overtime)

	2001	2002	2003	2004	July 2005p
Average Weekly Earnings ($)	574.14	590.68	597.08	611.93	633.75

[r] - revised data
[p] - preliminary data

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics

Employment Insurance

(August 2005 will be released October 25, 2005)

There were 29,920 beneficiaries (seasonally adjusted) in Nova Scotia that received regular Employment Insurance benefits in July 2005. This figure was 2.0 per cent lower than last month and represented an increase of 0.9 per cent over July 2004. Nationwide there were 490,950 beneficiaries, a decrease of 5.9 per cent over last month and a decline of 8.0 per cent from July 2004. Compared to July 2004, change in the number of beneficiaries ranged from -32.3 per cent in Alberta to +7.1 per cent in Prince Edward Island.

Number of Beneficiaries Receiving Regular EI Benefits

(Seasonally Adjusted)

	July 2005p	% Change July 2004 - July 2005
Canada	**490,950**	**-8.0**
Newfoundland & Labrador	37,910	4.6
Prince Edward Island	8,340	7.1
Nova Scotia	**29,920**	**0.9**
New Brunswick	34,750	0.8
Quebec	169,210	0.3
Ontario	116,000	-14.8
Manitoba	11,370	-12.3
Saskatchewan	10,610	-11.7
Alberta	19,870	-32.3
British Columbia	47,640	-16.6
Yukon	950	3.3
Northwest Territories and	750	-8.5
Nunavut	360	-2.7

Employment Insurance Statistics Program data are produced from an administrative data source and may, from time to time, be affected by changes to the Employment Insurance Act or administrative procedures. The number of beneficiaries is a measure of all persons who received Employment Insurance benefits for the week containing the fifteenth day of the month. The regular benefit payments series measures the total of all monies received by individuals for the entire month.

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics

Public Sector Employment - Nova Scotia

(Source: Statistics Canada, Public Institutions Division, Public Sector FMS Reports (CANSIM retrieval Tables 183-0002 and 183-0004)

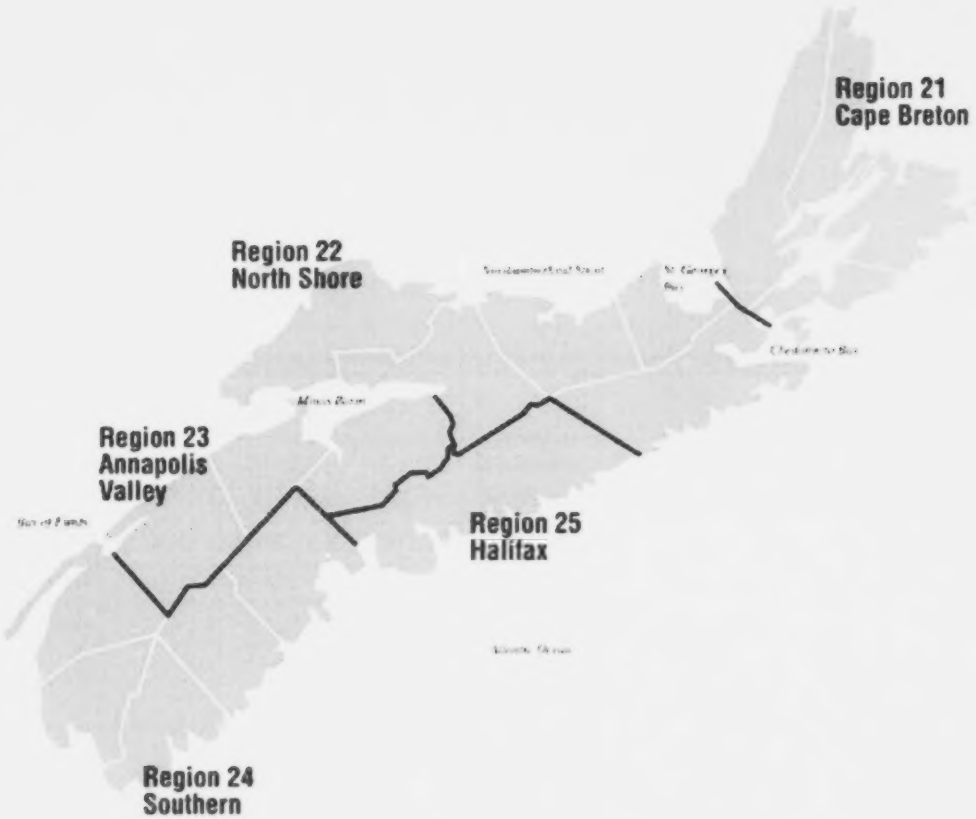
(3rd Quarter 2005 will be released November 29, 2005)

	2000*	2001*	2002*	2003*	2004*	Apr-June 2005**	% Change 2nd Q 2004-2nd Q 2005
Federal Government (includes military)	22,592	22,709	23,146	23,480	23,396	23,875	2.0
Military	10,814	10,391	10,526	10,599	10,696	11,023	2.8
Provincial General	11,615	11,303	11,108	11,288	11,082	11,592	4.7
Universities & Colleges	8,877	8,280	7,986	7,388	7,636	7,936	7.4
Health & Social Services Institution	27,501	28,155	29,070	30,324	27,738	29,217	4.0
Local General Government	9,212	9,490	10,228	11,031	11,068	10,073	-12.6
School Boards	16,933	16,468	15,797	16,375	16,127	16,315	-4.3
Total Government	**96,731**	**96,404**	**97,334**	**99,885**	**97,046**	**99,008**	**0.5**
Government Business Enterprises	6,825	6,396	6,479	6,738	7,011	7,307	4.1
Federal GBE	4,050	3,738	3,809	4,022	4,246	4,503	5.6
Provincial GBE	2,290	2,172	2,183	2,229	2,277	2,315	2.1
Local GBE	485	486	486	487	487	489	0.2
Total Public Sector	**103,556**	**102,800**	**103,812**	**106,623**	**104,056**	**106,316**	**0.7**

* Figures by jurisdiction do not always add to published totals.

** Quarterly data is not comparable to annual data due to normal seasonal changes in some groups, e.g., universities, schools.

Nova Scotia Labour Market
October 2005



NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics Division

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics

Labour Force Survey - Nova Scotia

(November will be released December 2, 2005)

HIGHLIGHTS - LFS Release October 2005

On a seasonally adjusted basis the provincial employment level in October 2005 increased by 5,000 persons over September 2005 to 445,200 employees. The size of the labour force increased 1.1% and the number of unemployed persons increased 2.0 per cent when compared to the previous month. As a result, the monthly unemployment rate increased 0.1 percentage points to 8.5 per cent. When compared to October 2004, the employment level increased 0.4 per cent while the unemployment rate decreased 0.1 percentage points. The participation rate increased 0.6 percentage points since last month at 63.8 per cent in October 2005, and decreased 0.1 percentage points from October 2004.

Based on unadjusted three month moving averages, the unemployment rate decreased in three of the five regions in the province since October 2004. The unemployment rate decreased 2.3 percentage points in the North Shore region, 1.7 percentage points in the Cape Breton region and 0.8 percentage points in the Halifax region, while it increased 2.0 percentage points in the Southern region and 0.3 percentage points in the Annapolis Valley region.

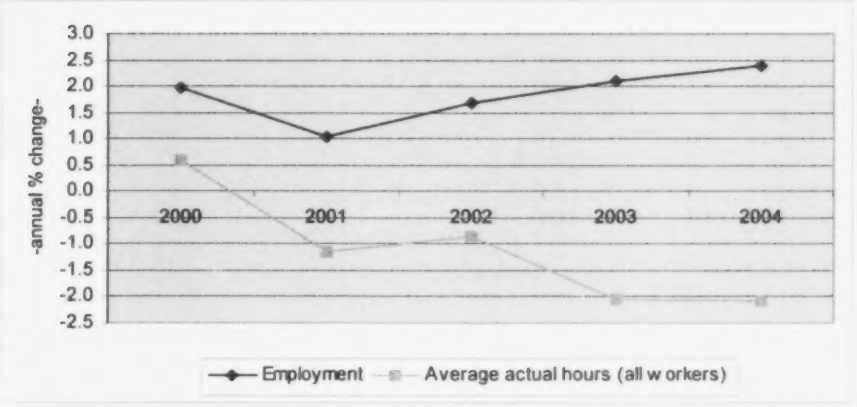
On a seasonally adjusted three month moving average basis, the unemployment rate for the Halifax Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) was 5.2 per cent in October 2005, a decrease of 0.6 percentage points from October 2004. In October 2005, the Halifax CMA rate stood as the lowest rate east of Winnipeg.

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue. No. 71-001

Average Actual Hours (all workers) vs. Employment, Nova Scotia 2000 to 2004

As employment increases, a corresponding increase in hours worked can usually be expected. However, data from the Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey (LFS) indicates that, in the past five years, there has been an increasing gap in Canada between employment and average actual hours worked. Average actual hours worked are the sum of usual and overtime hours (paid or otherwise), minus hours of absence for any reason (e.g., illness, vacation, statutory holidays, personal or family responsibilities, maternity leave). Usual hours of work are generally more stable, while hours actually worked can very from week to week. In Nova Scotia, the average actual hours worked have gradually declined from 34.8 hours per week in 2000 to 32.7 hours per week in 2004, while employment has shown an annual growth from 411,100 to 441,600 people. As a result, average actual hours worked declined by 6.0 per cent or 2.1 hours per week from 2000 to 2004, while employment increased by 7.4 per cent or 30,500 persons during the same period.

Annual Percentage Change, Employment and Average Actual Hours (all workers), Nova Scotia 2000 to 2004



In a Statistics Canada study[1], a number of factors were sited for this occurrence, e.g.,

- Survey methodology/framework
  - an under-representation of some statutory holidays led to an overestimation of average annual hours worked in 2000
  - not all reference weeks are comparable. A reference week usually includes the 15th of the month and some of these fluctuate in including or excluding statutory holidays, school breaks, vacations set by specific industries/companies. These

[1] Statistics Canada, Perspectives, Whither the Workweek?, Catalogue No. 75-001-XIE, June 2005.

inconsistencies may affect all of Canada or select areas in the reference week.
  - changes to the collection of data, e.g., introduction of a new computer-assisted interview system (CATI) in 2000 allowed interviewers to electronically capture respondent information facilitating the interviewer's task and reduced transcription errors.
- Aging workforce
  - a major portion of the increase in lost hours was attributable to an increase among workers aged 45 and over who are generally with an organization longer and thus entitled to more leave.
- Employees seeking better balance between work and personal life
  - it is evident that there is an increase in time off for vacation and for personal or family responsibilities.
- Legislative/union changes
  - changes to Employment Insurance that resulted in more weeks of maternity, parental and adoption benefits as of December 31, 2000.
  - union demands have resulted in improvements to vacation leave
- Increase in part time work
  - more pronounced occurrence of part time among men
  - many young people hold only part-time jobs and they are remaining students longer
- Natural disasters
  - events such as Hurricane Juan and White Juan cause unexpected disruptions in usual workforce activities
- The economy
  - the substantial appreciation of the Canadian dollar has led to an increase in work absences for other reasons
  - shifts in industrial structure and business cycle.

Because of these many factors, estimate of hours actually worked often introduces a bias that can distort interpretation of labour market conditions. A comprehensive adjustment is produced regularly at Statistics Canada in the Canadian Productivity Accounts program[2].

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2004, Catalogue No. 71F0004XCD; Perspectives, Whither the Workweek?, Catalgoue No. 75-001-XIE, June 2005.

[2] Statistics Canada. The Canadian Productivity Accounts Data. Catalogoe No. 15-003-XIE.

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics

Key Employment Indicators

November 4, 2005

Along with the monthly Labour Force Survey, several other data sources help view changes occurring in the labour market of the province. The following tables reflect some of those activities:

Total Wages & Salaries *(Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 13F0016XPB)*
(July-September 2005 will be released November 30, 2005)

From 2003 to 2004, the annual growth in total wages and salaries stood at 2.9 per cent in Nova Scotia reaching $13,368.9 million and rose 4.0 per cent in Canada to $563,149.2 million. Total wages and salaries increased 5.0 per cent in Nova Scotia during January to June 2005 as compared to January to June 2004 reaching $6,898.3 million and during the same period rose 4.5 per cent in Canada to $290,747.4 million.

Total Wages & Salaries, Nova Scotia
($millions - Actual)

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	Jan-June 2005
Total Wages & Salaries	11,508.3	11,947.3	12,539.6	12,997.2	13,368.9	6,898.3

Beginning with March 2001 data, the labour income estimates has been based on the North American Industry Classification (NAICS). NAICS based historical series were released for the period January 1997 through March 2001. Also beginning with the March 2001 data, the monthly estimates of labour income has become a quarterly release in conjunction with the National Income and Expenditure Accounts estimates.

Average Weekly Earnings *(Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 72-002-XPB)*
(September 2005 will be released November 29, 2005)

In 2004 the average earnings for all employees–incl. overtime (industrial aggregate) in Nova Scotia of $611.93[r] per week increased $14.85, up 2.5 per cent from 2003, while the Canadian figure of $705.68[r] represented an increase of $15.33 or 2.2 per cent. In August 2005 Nova Scotia's average weekly earnings (industrial aggregate) increased 4.8 per cent over August 2004 to $639.06 compared to a 4.3 per cent increase in Canada to $733.98. The August 2005 average weekly earnings in Nova Scotia were 87.1 per cent of the Canadian average.

Average Weekly Earnings, Nova Scotia
NAICS-based(including overtime)

	2001	2002	2003	2004	August 2005[p]
Average Weekly Earnings ($)	574.14	590.68	597.08	611.93	639.06

[r] - revised data
[p] - preliminary data

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics

Employment Insurance

(September 2005 will be released November 29, 2005)

There were 30,160 beneficiaries (seasonally adjusted) in Nova Scotia that received regular Employment Insurance benefits in August 2005. This figure was 0.8 per cent higher than last month and represented an increase of 0.3 per cent over August 2004. Nationwide there were 528,790 beneficiaries, an increase of 7.7 per cent over last month and a decline of 4.0 per cent from August 2004. Compared to August 2004, change in the number of beneficiaries ranged from -18.7 per cent in Alberta to +5.7 per cent in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Number of Beneficiaries Receiving Regular EI Benefits
(Seasonally Adjusted)

	August 2005[P]	% Change August 2004 - August 2005
Canada	**528,790**	**-4.0**
Newfoundland & Labrador	39,790	5.6
Prince Edward Island	8,590	1.9
Nova Scotia	**30,160**	**0.3**
New Brunswick	34,660	0.6
Quebec	176,610	-3.2
Ontario	137,570	-0.5
Manitoba	13,250	-5.3
Saskatchewan	11,490	-4.9
Alberta	23,910	-18.7
British Columbia	51,090	-13.5
Yukon	940	2.2
Northwest Territories and	790	-3.7
Nunavut	370	0.0

Employment Insurance Statistics Program data are produced from an administrative data source and may, from time to time, be affected by changes to the Employment Insurance Act or administrative procedures. The number of beneficiaries is a measure of all persons who received Employment Insurance benefits for the week containing the fifteenth day of the month. The regular benefit payments series measures the total of all monies received by individuals for the entire month.

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics

Public Sector Employment - Nova Scotia

(Source: Statistics Canada, Public Institutions Division, Public Sector FMS Reports (CANSIM retrieval Tables 183-0002 and 183-0004)

(3rd Quarter 2005 will be released November 29, 2005)

	2000*	2001*	2002*	2003*	2004*	Apr-June 2005**	% Change 2nd Q 2004-2nd Q 2005
Federal Government (includes military)	22,592	22,709	23,146	23,480	23,396	23,875	2.0
Military	10,814	10,391	10,526	10,599	10,696	11,023	2.8
Provincial General	11,615	11,303	11,108	11,288	11,082	11,592	4.7
Universities & Colleges	8,877	8,280	7,986	7,388	7,636	7,936	7.4
Health & Social Services Institution	27,501	28,155	29,070	30,324	27,738	29,217	4.0
Local General Government	9,212	9,490	10,228	11,031	11,068	10,073	-12.6
School Boards	16,933	16,468	15,797	16,375	16,127	16,315	-4.3
Total Government	**96,731**	**96,404**	**97,334**	**99,885**	**97,046**	**99,008**	**0.5**
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Total Public Sector	**103,556**	**102,800**	**103,812**	**106,623**	**104,056**	**106,316**	**0.7**

* Figures by jurisdiction do not always add to published totals.

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Nova Scotia Labour Market
November 2005

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics Division

Key Employment Indicators December 2, 2005

Labour Force Survey - Nova Scotia

(December will be released January 6, 2006)

HIGHLIGHTS - LFS Release November 2005

On a seasonally adjusted basis the provincial employment level in November 2005 decreased by 2,400 persons over October 2005 to 442,800 employees. The size of the labour force decreased 0.8% and the number of unemployed persons declined 3.9 per cent when compared to the previous month. As a result, the monthly unemployment rate decreased 0.3 percentage points to 8.2 per cent. When compared to November 2004, the employment level decreased 0.4 per cent while the unemployment rate decreased 0.6 percentage points. The participation rate declined 0.5 percentage points since last month at 63.3 per cent in November 2005, and decreased 0.9 percentage points from November 2004.

Based on unadjusted three month moving averages, the unemployment rate decreased in three of the five regions in the province since November 2004. The unemployment rate decreased 2.4 percentage points in the North Shore region, 0.7 percentage points in the Cape Breton region and 0.4 percentage points in the Halifax region, while it increased 2.1 percentage points in the Southern region and 1.2 percentage points in the Annapolis Valley region.

On a seasonally adjusted three month moving average basis, the unemployment rate for the Halifax Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) was 5.4 per cent in November 2005, a decrease of 0.5 percentage points from November 2004. In November 2005, the Halifax CMA rate stood as the lowest rate east of Quebec.

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue. No. 71-001

Important Note to Readers: Upcoming LFS Revisions

On Wednesday, January 25, 2006, there will be a revision affecting all Labour Force Survey estimates from January 1987 to December 2005.

There are three reasons for this revision:

- The revision will enable the use of improved population benchmarks in the LFS estimation process. These improved benchmarks will provide better information on the number of non-permanent residents.
- There will be changes to the data for the public and private sectors from 1987 to 1999. Currently, the data on the public and private sectors for this period are based on an old definition of the public sector. The revised data will better reflect the current public sector definition, and therefore result in a longer time series for analysis.
- The geographic coding of several small Census Agglomerations (CA) have been updated historically from 1996 urban centre boundaries to 2001 CA boundaries. This affects data from January 1987 to December 2004.

It is important to note that the change to almost all estimates will be very minor, with the exception

of the public sector series from 1987 to 1999. Rates of unemployment, employment and participation are essentially unchanged, as are all key labour market trends.

During the revision, CANSIM data for the LFS will be off-line from January 16 to January 24, 2006. To facilitate data users' access to the revised data, LFS data on CANSIM will be free from January 25 to February 10, 2006.

Special tabulations produced through the Client Services unit at the Labour Force Survey will be revised free of charge.

Key Employment Indicators - Feature December 2, 2005

Minimum Wage

Each province and territory of Canada legislates its own minimum wage as part of its employment standards. Changes in these rates can be set in any month of the year. Self-employed and unpaid family workers are excluded from the legislation. Other exclusions and exceptions to the standard rate vary from province to province and can include young workers, workers with disabilities, domestic and live-in care workers, farm labour, home-based workers, tip-related wage rates, etc. It is an offence to pay employees less than the minimum wage and employees are prohibited from accepting less than the minimum wage.

Current and Forthcoming Minimum Hourly Wage Rates, Experienced Adult Workers[1]
Canada, the Provinces and Territories

Jurisdiction	Minimum Hourly Rate(2)	Effective Date
Federal	Same as adult minimum age rate in each provincial and territorial jurisdiction	
Newfoundland	$6.25	June 1, 2005
	$6.50	January 1, 2006
	$6.75	June 1, 2006
	$7.00	January 1, 2007
Prince Edward Island	$6.80	January 1, 2005
Nova Scotia	$6.50	April 1, 2004
	$6.80	October 1, 2005
	$7.15	April 1, 2006
New Brunswick	$6.30	January 1, 2005
	$6.40	January 1, 2006
	$6.60	January 1, 2007
Quebec	$7.60	May 1, 2005
Ontario	$7.45	February 1, 2005
	$7.75	February 1, 2006
	$8.00	February 1, 2007
Manitoba	$7.25	April 1, 2005
Saskatchewan	$6.65	November 1, 2002
Alberta	$5.90	October 1, 1999
Alberta	$7.00	September 1, 2005
British Columbia	$8.00	November 1, 2001
Northwest Territories	$8.25	December 18, 2003
Nunavut	$8.50	March 3, 2003
Yukon	$7.20	October 1, 1998

(1) The minimum wage is a basic labour standard that sets the lowest wage rate that an employer can pay to employees who are covered by labour legislation.
(2) In most jurisdictions, these rates also apply to young workers. More information is available on special rates for young workers under "Current and Forthcoming Wage Rates in Canada for Young Workers and Specific Occupations".

See HRSDC web site noted below:
http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/en/lp/spila/minwage.shtml

In 2004, minimum wages ranged from a high of $8.50 in Nunavut and $8.00 per hour in British Columbia to a low of $5.90 in Alberta. For experienced workers in Nova Scotia from the $6.50 per hour set in April 1, 2004, the minimum wage rate increased to $6.80 per hour effective October 1, 2005 and at April 1, 2006 will increase to $7.15.

Note: An additional reference, Statistics Canada's, Perspectives on Labour and Income, Fact Sheet on Minimum Wage, Vol. 6, No. 9, September 2005, Catalogue No. 75-001-XIE, provides an understanding of how to evaluate the potential impact of a change in the minimum wage legislation–who works for minimum wage and what types of jobs they hold.

Source: Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Labour,
web site <http://www.gov.ns.ca/enla>; Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC), web site
http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/en/lp/spila/minwage.shtml

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics

Key Employment Indicators

December 2, 2005

Along with the monthly Labour Force Survey, several other data sources help view changes occurring in the labour market of the province. The following tables reflect some of those activities:

Total Wages & Salaries *(Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 13F0016XPB)*

From 2003 to 2004, the annual growth in total wages and salaries stood at 2.7 per cent in Nova Scotia reaching $13,349.0 million and rose 4.0 per cent in Canada to $563,149.2 million. Total wages and salaries increased 5.3 per cent in Nova Scotia during January to September 2005 as compared to January to September 2004 reaching $10,490.7 million and during the same period rose 5.0 per cent in Canada to $420,583.0 million.

Total Wages & Salaries, Nova Scotia
($millions - Actual)

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	Jan-Sept. 2005
Total Wages & Salaries	11,508.3	11,947.3	12,539.6	12,997.2	13,368.9	10,490.7

Beginning with March 2001 data, the labour income estimates has been based on the North American Industry Classification (NAICS). NAICS based historical series were released for the period January 1997 through March 2001. Also beginning with the March 2001 data, the monthly estimates of labour income has become a quarterly release in conjunction with the National Income and Expenditure Accounts estimates.

Average Weekly Earnings *(Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 72-002-XPB)*
(October 2005 will be released December 22, 2005)

In 2004 the average earnings for all employees (incl. overtime (industrial aggregate) in Nova Scotia of $611.93[r] per week increased $14.85, up 2.5 per cent from 2003, while the Canadian figure of $705.68[r] represented an increase of $15.33 or 2.2 per cent. In September 2005 Nova Scotia's average weekly earnings (industrial aggregate) increased 5.1 per cent over September 2004 to $643.76 compared to a 3.9 per cent increase in Canada to $737.96. The August 2005 average weekly earnings in Nova Scotia were 87.2 per cent of the Canadian average.

Average Weekly Earnings, Nova Scotia
NAICS-based(including overtime)

	2001	2002	2003	2004	September 2005[p]
Average Weekly Earnings ($)	574.14	590.68	597.08	611.93	643.76

[r] - revised data
[p] - preliminary data

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics

Employment Insurance

(October 2005 will be released December 20, 2005)

There were 29,520 beneficiaries (seasonally adjusted) in Nova Scotia that received regular Employment Insurance benefits in September 2005. This figure was 1.9 per cent lower than last month and represented a decline of 2.9 per cent over September 2004. Nationwide there were 513,020 beneficiaries, a decrease of 3.0 per cent over last month and a decline of 4.1 per cent from September 2004. Compared to September 2004, change in the number of beneficiaries in September 2005 ranged from -27.2 per cent in Alberta to +2.9 per cent in New Brunswick.

Number of Beneficiaries Receiving Regular EI Benefits

(Seasonally Adjusted)

	September 2005[p]	% Change September 2004 - September 2005
Canada	**513,020**	**-4.1**
Newfoundland & Labrador	38,700	1.3
Prince Edward Island	8,620	2.5
Nova Scotia	**29,520**	**-2.9**
New Brunswick	35,350	2.9
Quebec	175,700	-1.5
Ontario	132,960	1.2
Manitoba	12,070	**-8.4**
Saskatchewan	10,730	-9.0
Alberta	20,810	-27.2
British Columbia	47,690	-17.0
Yukon	900	-2.2
Northwest Territories and	800	1.3
Nunavut	390	2.6

Employment Insurance Statistics Program data are produced from an administrative data source and may, from time to time, be affected by changes to the Employment Insurance Act or administrative procedures. The number of beneficiaries is a measure of all persons who received Employment Insurance benefits for the week containing the fifteenth day of the month. The regular benefit payments series measures the total of all monies received by individuals for the entire month.

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics

Public Sector Employment - Nova Scotia

(Source: Statistics Canada, Public Institutions Division, Public Sector FMS Reports (CANSIM retrieval Tables 183-0002 and 183-0004)

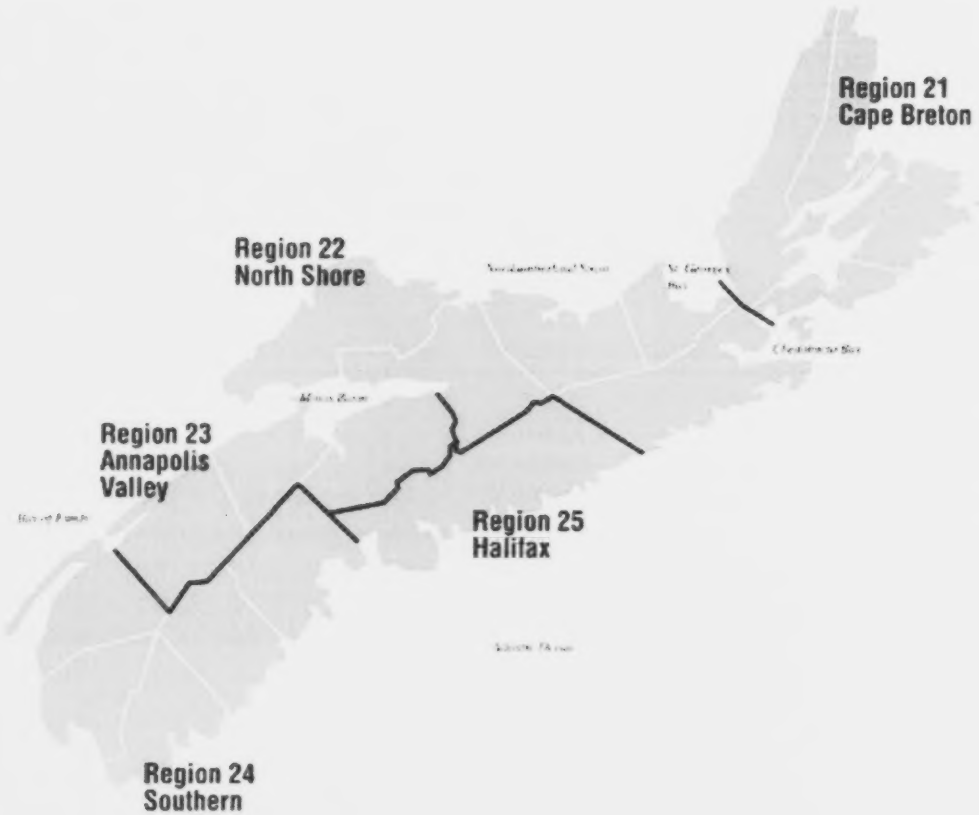
(Data for 3rd quarter 2005 released November 29, 2005)

	2000*	2001*	2002*	2003*	2004*	July-Sept 2005**	% Change 3rd Q 2004-3rd Q 2005
Federal Government (includes military)	22,592	22,709	23,146	23,480	23,396	23,784	0.9
Military	10,814	10,391	10,526	10,599	10,696	10,650	0.6
Provincial General	11,615	11,303	11,108	11,288	11,082	11,364	0.6
Universities & Colleges	8,877	8,280	7,986	7,388	7,636	7,184	7.2
Health & Social Services Institution	27,501	28,155	29,070	30,324	27,738	30,452	13.4
Local General Government	9,212	9,490	10,228	11,031	11,068	10,494	-9.3
School Boards	16,933	16,468	15,797	16,375	16,127	12,356	-3.1
Total Government	**96,731**	**96,404**	**97,334**	**99,885**	**97,046**	**95,634**	**3.1**
Government Business Enterprises	6,825	6,396	6,479	6,738	7,011	7,430	4.1
Federal GBE	4,050	3,738	3,809	4,022	4,246	4,623	5.6
Provincial GBE	2,290	2,172	2,183	2,229	2,277	2,317	2.1
Local GBE	485	486	486	487	487	490	0.2
Total Public Sector	**103,556**	**102,800**	**103,812**	**106,623**	**104,056**	**103,064**	**3.2**

* Figures by jurisdiction do not always add to published totals.

** Quarterly data is not comparable to annual data due to normal seasonal changes in some groups, e.g., universities, schools.

Nova Scotia Labour Market
December 2005



NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics Division

Labour Force Survey - Nova Scotia

(January 2006 will be released February , 2006)

HIGHLIGHTS - LFS Release December 2005

On a seasonally adjusted basis the provincial employment level in December 2005 decreased by 1,300 persons over November 2005 to 441,500 employees. The size of the labour force remained flat and the number of unemployed persons increased 3.3 per cent when compared to the previous month. As a result, the monthly unemployment rate increased 0.3 percentage points to 8.5 per cent. When compared to December 2004, the employment level decreased 0.4 per cent while the unemployment rate decreased 0.4 percentage points. The participation rate stayed the same at 63.3 percent since last month and declined 0.9 percentage points from December 2004.

Based on unadjusted three month moving averages, the unemployment rate decreased in three of the five regions in the province since December 2004. The unemployment rate decreased

2.8 percentage points in the North Shore region,
0.7 percentage points in the Cape Breton region
0.4 percentage points in the Halifax region
, while it increased
1.5 percentage points in the Southern region
1.5 percentage points in the Annapolis Valley region.

On a seasonally adjusted three month moving average basis, the unemployment rate for the Halifax Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) was 5.2 per cent in December 2005, a decrease of 0.2 percentage points from December 2004. In December 2005, the Halifax CMA rate stood as the lowest rate east of Quebec City.

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue. No. 71-001

NOVA SCOTIA
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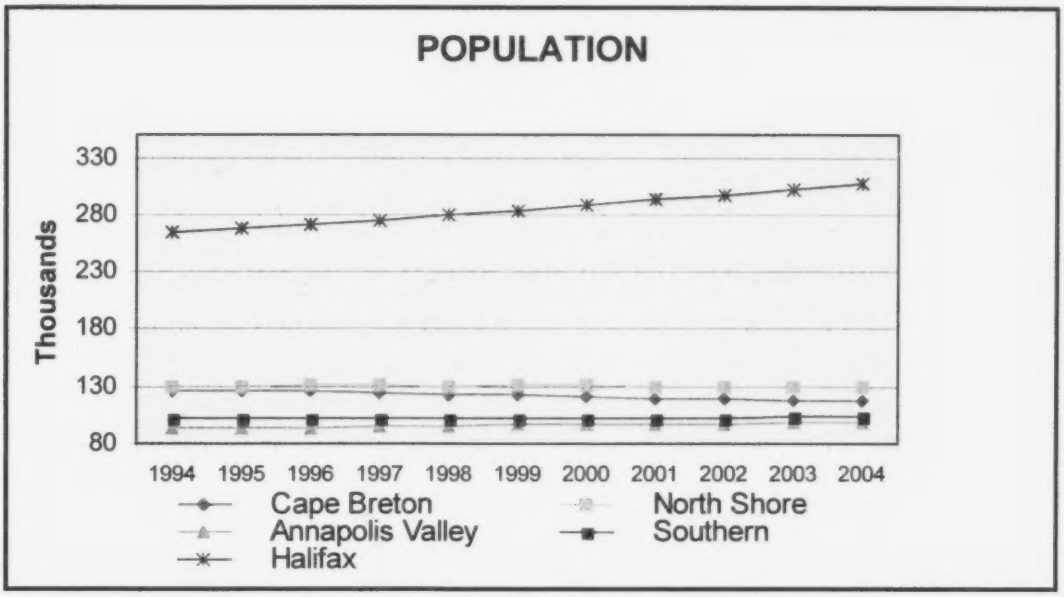
Key Employment Indicators - Feature January 6, 2006

Labour Force Characteristics of Nova Scotia's Economic Regions, 1994 - 2004

Statistics Canada provides labour force data for the five economic regions in Nova Scotia. The five regions are aggregates of counties. **North Shore region** consists of Colchester, Cumberland, Pictou, Antigonish and Guysborough counties; **Southern region** consists of Lunenburg, Queens, Shelburne, Yarmouth and Digby counties; **Annapolis Valley region** consists of Hants, Annapolis, and Kings counties; **Cape Breton region** consists of Richmond, Inverness, Victoria and Cape Breton counties; **Halifax region** consists of Halifax county.

Population **(15 years and over)**



Over the ten year period the population growth in three of the five regions was relatively flat with a slight upward trend. North Shore region went from 129,700 to 130,300; Annapolis Valley region went from 93,000 to 98,800 and the Southern region went from 102,900 to 103,100. In the Halifax region the population grew from 265,100 to 307,500, an increase of 15.9%. The Cape Breton region showed the only decline dropping from 125,800 to 117,200 or -6.8%.

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2004, CD-ROM No. 71F0004-XCB

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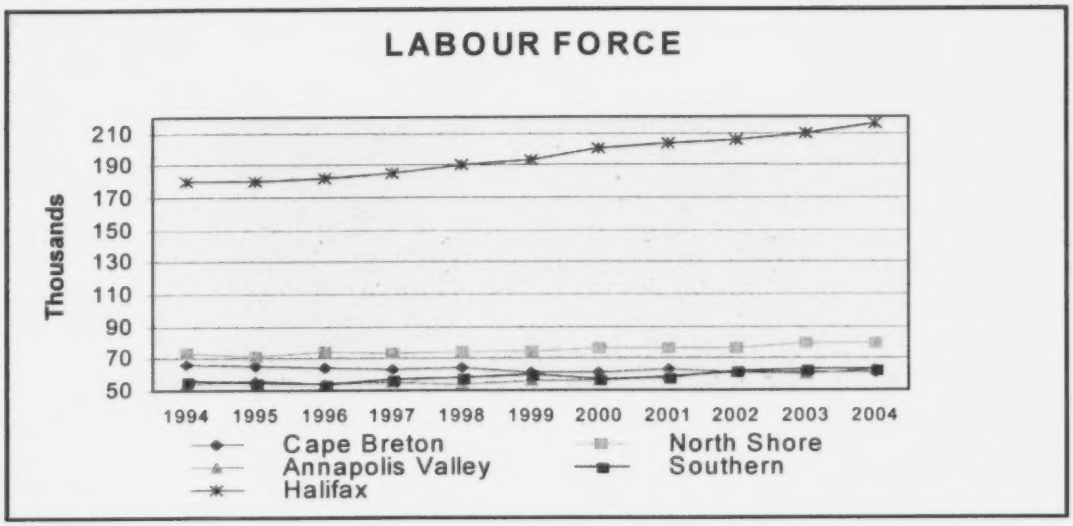
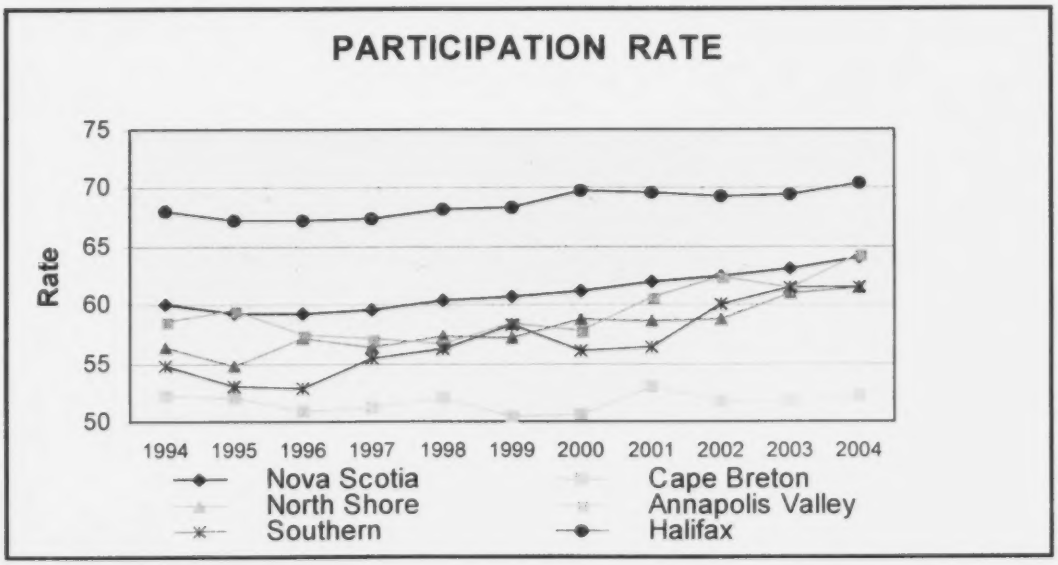
Labour Force



The labour force is defined as the number of people aged fifteen years or more who are employed or who are unemployed and looking for work. Similar to the population growth , the North Shore region, Annapolis Valley region and the Southern region exhibit slight growth in the labour force. Halifax region shows growth of 36,200 people while the Cape Breton region shows a decline of 4,600 people in the labour force.

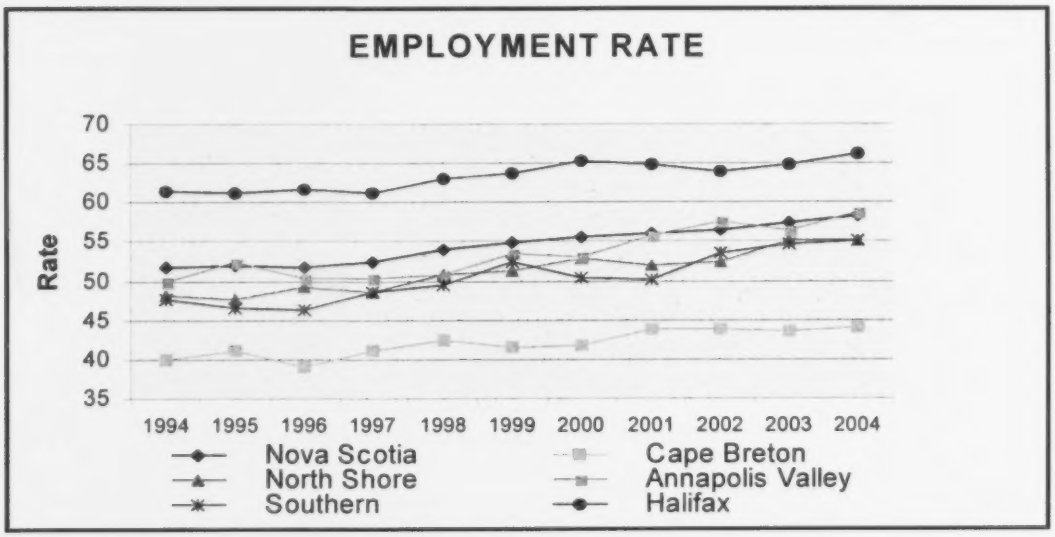
Participation Rate



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2004, CD-ROM No. 71F0004-XCB

The participation rate is defined as the labour force expressed as a percent of the population aged fifteen years and over. Four of the regions had growth over the decade, ranging from 2.4 percentage points in the Halifax region to 9.1 percentage points in the North Shore region. Cape Breton had a minimal decline of 0.1 percentage points. The Nova Scotia average was growth of 4.0 percentage points. As can be seen from the graph the Halifax region had the highest participation rate through the entire period while Cape Breton had the lowest. In 1994 the difference in participation rate between the Halifax region and the Cape Breton region was 15.7 percentage points, this expanded to 18.2 percentage points in 2004.

Employment Rate



The employment rate is defined as the number of employed persons expressed as a percentage of the population aged fifteen years and over. The employment rate showed a positive trend in all regions of Nova Scotia over the period. The largest increase of 8.7 percentage points occurred in the Annapolis Valley region, while the lowest increase of 4.2 percentage points occurred in the Cape Breton Region. The Nova Scotia average was an increase of 6.5 percentage points. The Halifax region had the highest employment rate for the period while the Cape Breton region had the lowest employment rate. In 1994 the difference between the Halifax region and the Cape Breton region was 21.5 percentage points, this increased slightly to 22 percentage points in 2004.

Source: Statistics Canada. Labour Force Historical Review, 2004. CD-ROM No. 71F0004-XCB

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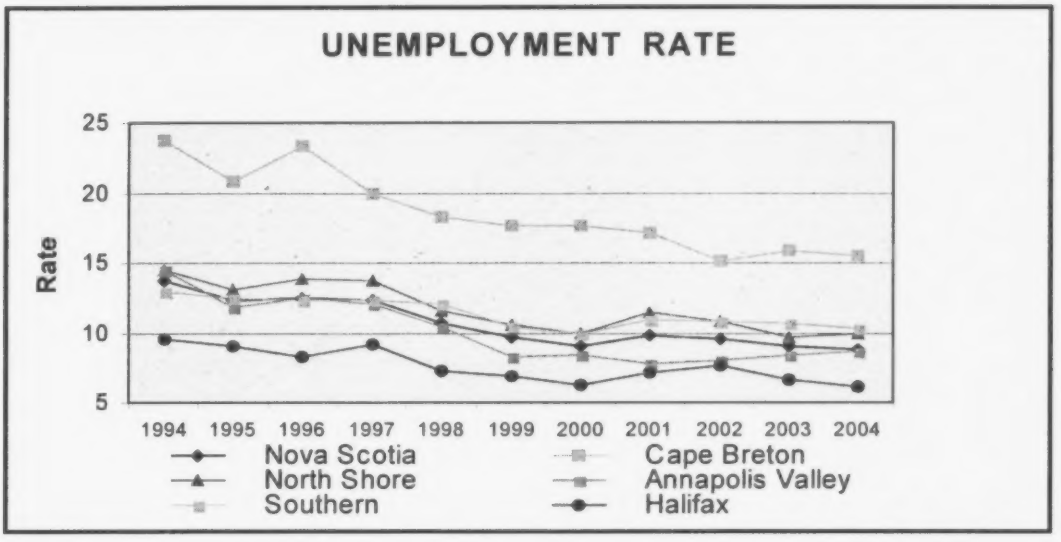
Unemployment Rate



The unemployment rate is defined as the number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force. The unemployment rate has declined in all regions of the province over the period. The highest drop was in the Cape Breton region where the unemployment rate went from 23.7% in 1994 to 15.5% in 2004, a decline of 8.2 percentage points. Part of this decline could be attributed to the drop in the labour force and no growth in the participation rate over the period. Nova Scotia's unemployment rate declined 4.9 percentage points over the period. The Halifax region had the lowest unemployment rate over the period while the Cape Breton region had the highest. The discrepancy between unemployment rates for the two regions was 14.2 percentage points in 1994 and 9.4 percentage points in 2004.

Source: Statistics Canada. Labour Force Historical Review, 2004. CD-ROM No. 71F0004-XCB

NOVA SCOTIA
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Economics & Statistics

Key Employment Indicators

January 6, 2006

Along with the monthly Labour Force Survey, several other data sources help view changes occurring in the labour market of the province. The following tables reflect some of those activities:

Total Wages & Salaries *(Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 13F0016XPB)*
(4th quarter 2005 will be released February 28, 2006)

From 2003 to 2004, the annual growth in total wages and salaries stood at 2.7 per cent in Nova Scotia reaching $13,349.0 million and rose 4.0 per cent in Canada to $563,149.2 million. Total wages and salaries increased 5.3 per cent in Nova Scotia during January to September 2005 as compared to January to September 2004 reaching $10,490.7 million and during the same period rose 5.0 per cent in Canada to $420,583.0 million.

Total Wages & Salaries, Nova Scotia
($millions - Actual)

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	Jan-Sept. 2005
Total Wages & Salaries	11,508.3	11,947.3	12,539.6	12,997.2	13,368.9	10,490.7

Beginning with March 2001 data, the labour income estimates has been based on the North American Industry Classification (NAICS). NAICS based historical series were released for the period January 1997 through March 2001. Also beginning with the March 2001 data, the monthly estimates of labour income has become a quarterly release in conjunction with the National Income and Expenditure Accounts estimates.

Average Weekly Earnings *(Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 72-002-XPB)*
(November 2005 will be released January 26, 2006)

In 2004 the average earnings for all employees (incl. overtime (industrial aggregate) in Nova Scotia of $611.93[r] per week increased $14.85, up 2.5 per cent from 2003, while the Canadian figure of $705.68[r] represented an increase of $15.33 or 2.2 per cent. In October 2005 Nova Scotia's average weekly earnings (industrial aggregate) increased 5.8 per cent over October 2005 to $646.17 compared to a 4.3 per cent increase in Canada to $737.56. The August 2005 average weekly earnings in Nova Scotia were 87.6 per cent of the Canadian average.

Average Weekly Earnings, Nova Scotia
NAICS-based(including overtime)

	2001	2002	2003	2004	October 2005[p]
Average Weekly Earnings ($)	574.14	590.68	597.08	611.93	646.17

[r] - revised data
[p] - preliminary data

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics

Employment Insurance

(November 2005 will be released January 24, 2006)

There were 28,990 beneficiaries (seasonally adjusted) in Nova Scotia that received regular Employment Insurance benefits in October 2005. This figure was 1.4 per cent lower than last month and represented a decline of 3.6 per cent over October 2004. Nationwide there were 505,310 beneficiaries, a decrease of 1.3 per cent over last month and a decline of 3.6 per cent from October 2004. Compared to October 2004, change in the number of beneficiaries in October 2005 ranged from -24.7 per cent in Alberta to +5.0 per cent in Nunavut.

Number of Beneficiaries Receiving Regular EI Benefits

(Seasonally Adjusted)

	October 2005[p]	% Change October 2004 - October 2005
Canada	**505,310**	**-3.6**
Newfoundland & Labrador	38,200	1.4
Prince Edward Island	8,400	-2.7
Nova Scotia	**28,990**	**-3.6**
New Brunswick	34,230	-0.2
Quebec	174,430	0.2
Ontario	127,920	-1.8
Manitoba	11,770	-6.4
Saskatchewan	10,490	-5.0
Alberta	20,540	-24.7
British Columbia	48,500	-13.2
Yukon	900	-1.1
Northwest Territories and	770	0.0
Nunavut	420	5.0

Employment Insurance Statistics Program data are produced from an administrative data source and may, from time to time, be affected by changes to the Employment Insurance Act or administrative procedures. The number of beneficiaries is a measure of all persons who received Employment Insurance benefits for the week containing the fifteenth day of the month. The regular benefit payments series measures the total of all monies received by individuals for the entire month.

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Economics & Statistics

Public Sector Employment - Nova Scotia

(Source: Statistics Canada, Public Institutions Division, Public Sector FMS Reports (CANSIM retrieval Tables 183-0002 and 183-0004)
(4th quarter 2005 will be released February 27, 2006)

	2000*	2001*	2002*	2003*	2004*	July-Sept 2005**	% Change 3rd Q 2004-3rd Q 2005
Federal Government (includes military)	22,592	22,709	23,146	23,480	23,396	23,784	0.9
Military	10,814	10,391	10,526	10,599	10,696	10,650	0.6
Provincial General	11,615	11,303	11,108	11,288	11,082	11,364	0.6
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Local GBE	485	486	486	487	487	490	0.2
Total Public Sector	**103,556**	**102,800**	**103,812**	**106,623**	**104,056**	**103,064**	**3.2**

* Figures by jurisdiction do not always add to published totals.
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